



GO! GO!
LOSER RANGER!

3

**NEGI
HARUBA**

CREATOR OF THE QUINTESSENTIAL QUINTUPLETS



GO! GO!

LOSER RANGER!

3

NEGI HARUBA

CHARACTER PROFILES



SINCE WE'RE FACING THE RANGERS WHOSE ROOTS DRAW UPON DRAGONS, WHY DON'T WE, THE MONSTERS, BECOME TIGERS?

[DISGUISED]

FIGHTER D

A rank-and-file member of the fighters known as "Dusters." He has decided to join hands with Hibiki in order to put an end to the war by mimicking him and infiltrating the Ranger Force once more. His current goal is to be promoted to a full member of the Rangers so he can get closer to the Dragon Keepers.



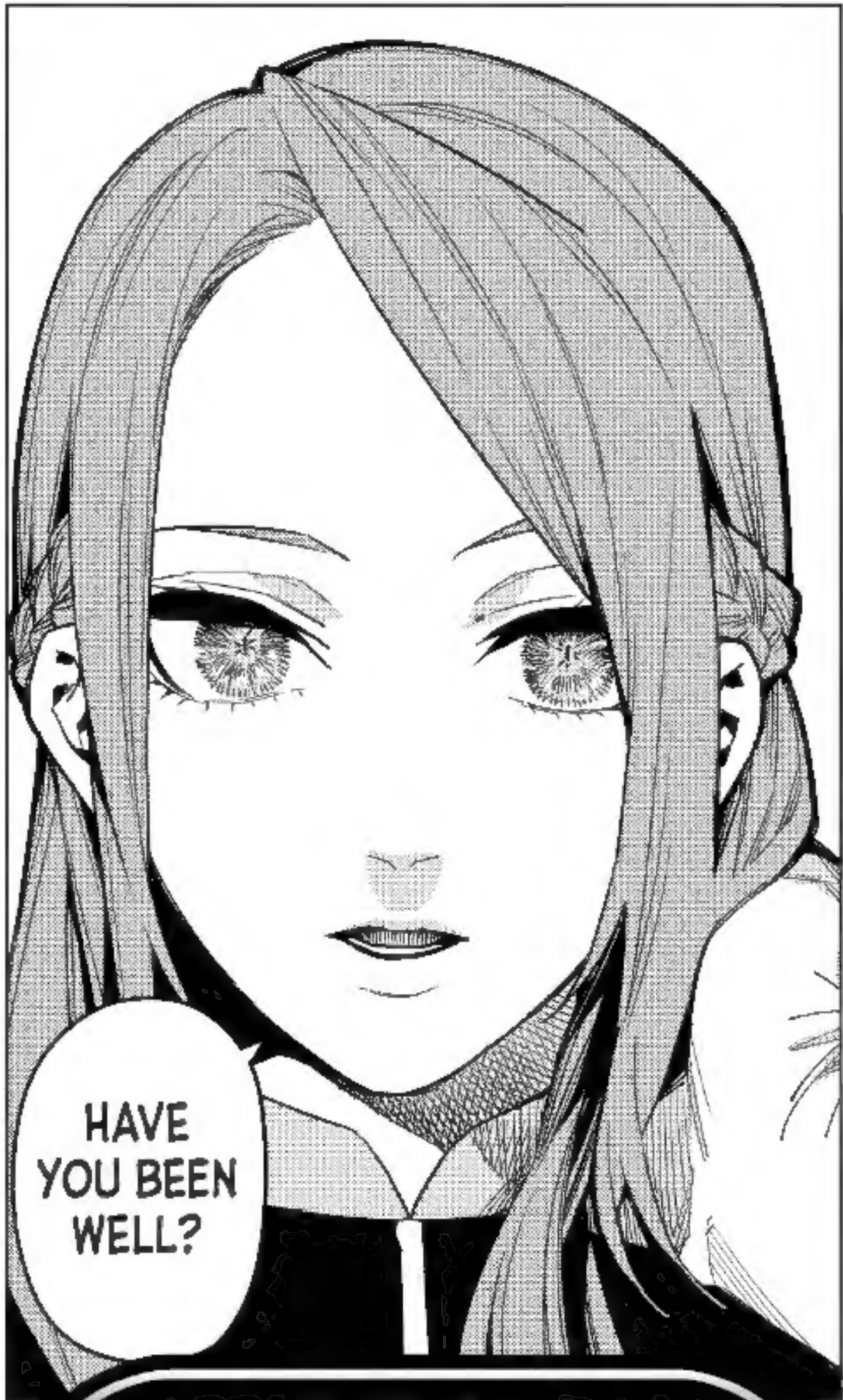
I'LL CRUSH THE RANGER FORCE FIRST.

XX



MYSTERIOUS MONSTER GIRL

A Fighter who'd been hiding inside of the closet in Hibiki's room. She seems to trust Hibiki.



HAVE YOU BEEN WELL?

SESERA SAKURAMA

Hibiki's older sister and the current Pink Keeper.



IT IS.

BUT...

I BELIEVE I'M RIGHT.

HIBIKI SAKURAMA

After learning the truth about the war, Hibiki decided to work with D in order to right the Ranger Force. He has entrusted his life as Hibiki Sakurama to D and gone off to reform the Force from the outside.

THE DIVINE DRAGON RANGERS: THE DRAGON KEEPERS

AKA. THE RANGER FORCE



**KANON
HISUI**

Green Squad's
No. 2.



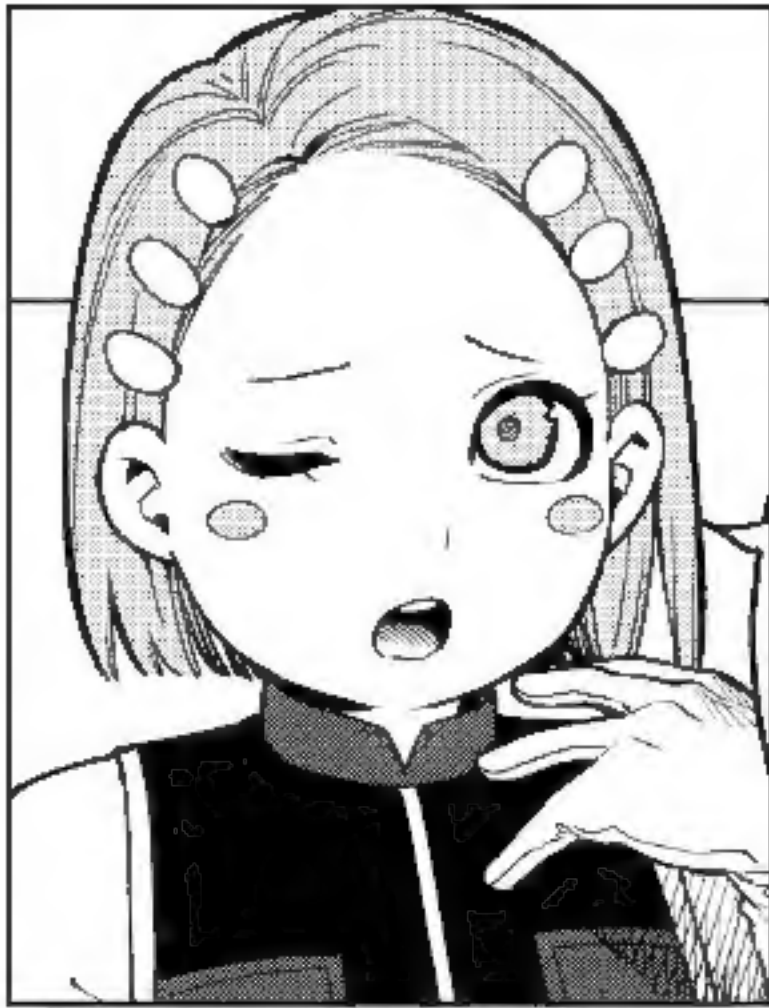
**YUMEKO
SUZUKIRI**

Yellow Squad's
No. 2. Plotting
to crush the
Ranger Force.



**JIN
HIMURA**

Red Squad's
former No. 2.



**KOMACHI
AIZOME**

Standing in for
Blue Squad's
No. 2.



**MASURAO
NADESHIKO**

Pink Squad's
No. 2.

RECRUITS



**SOUJIROU
ISHIKAWA**

THAT'S
RIGHT.



**ANGELICA
YUKINO**

WHAT IS
IT? I'M
EATING.



**KAI
SHION**

WHY'D
YOU JUST



**EIGEN
URABE**

HE CLEARLY
CONSIDERS
SAKURAMA
HIS RIVAL.



**RENNEN
AKEBAYASHI**



**ANGEL
USUKUBO**

...BUT
I GUESS I CAN'T
BLAME HER NOW
THAT WE'RE
ALL COMPETING
AGAINST EACH
OTHER...



**YAMATO
KURUSU**



**RANMARU
KOGUMA**

HE BARELY
TALKS, SO
HE'S HARD
TO READ.

APPRECIATE
IT.



**TSUKASA
SHIPPON**

I'LL BE
HONEST.
THIS MUS-
CLEHEAD
IS DUMBER
THAN ME.

I'LL
PASS...

JUST READ THIS SHORT SUMMARY AND YOU'RE GOOD TO GO!

D has mimicked Hibiki and infiltrated the Ranger Force once more!

It will be all over for him if he's revealed to be a monster, but now he finds himself trapped between Sesera and a mysterious monster girl! Will he be able to survive this unscathed?!

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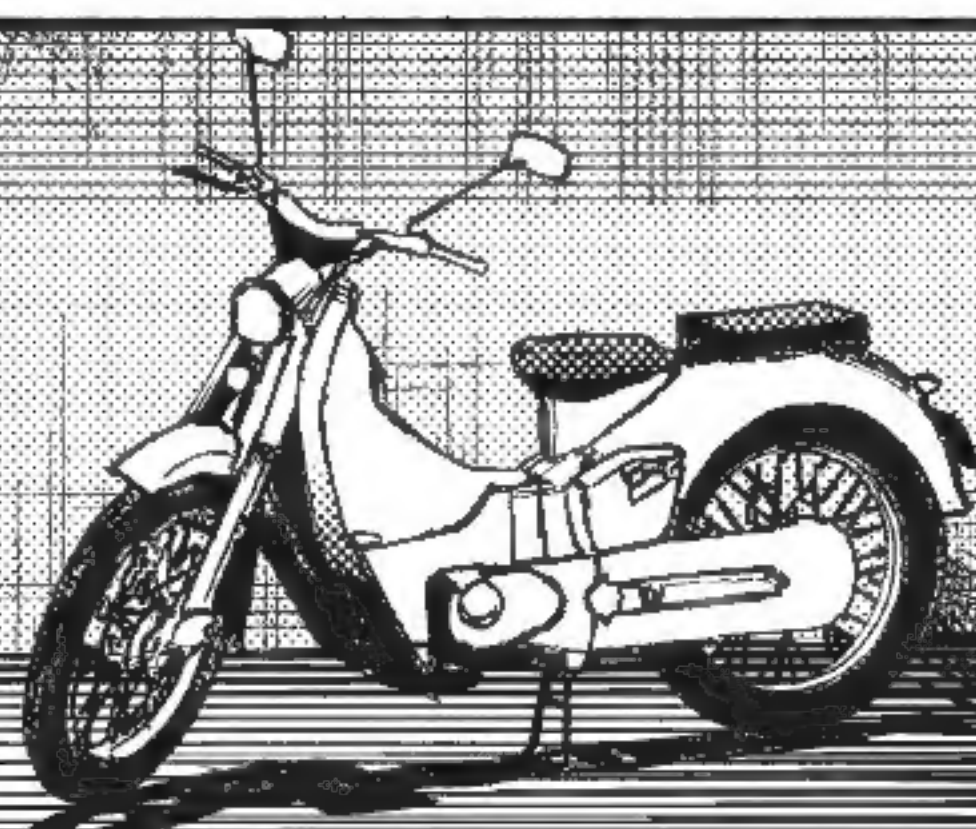
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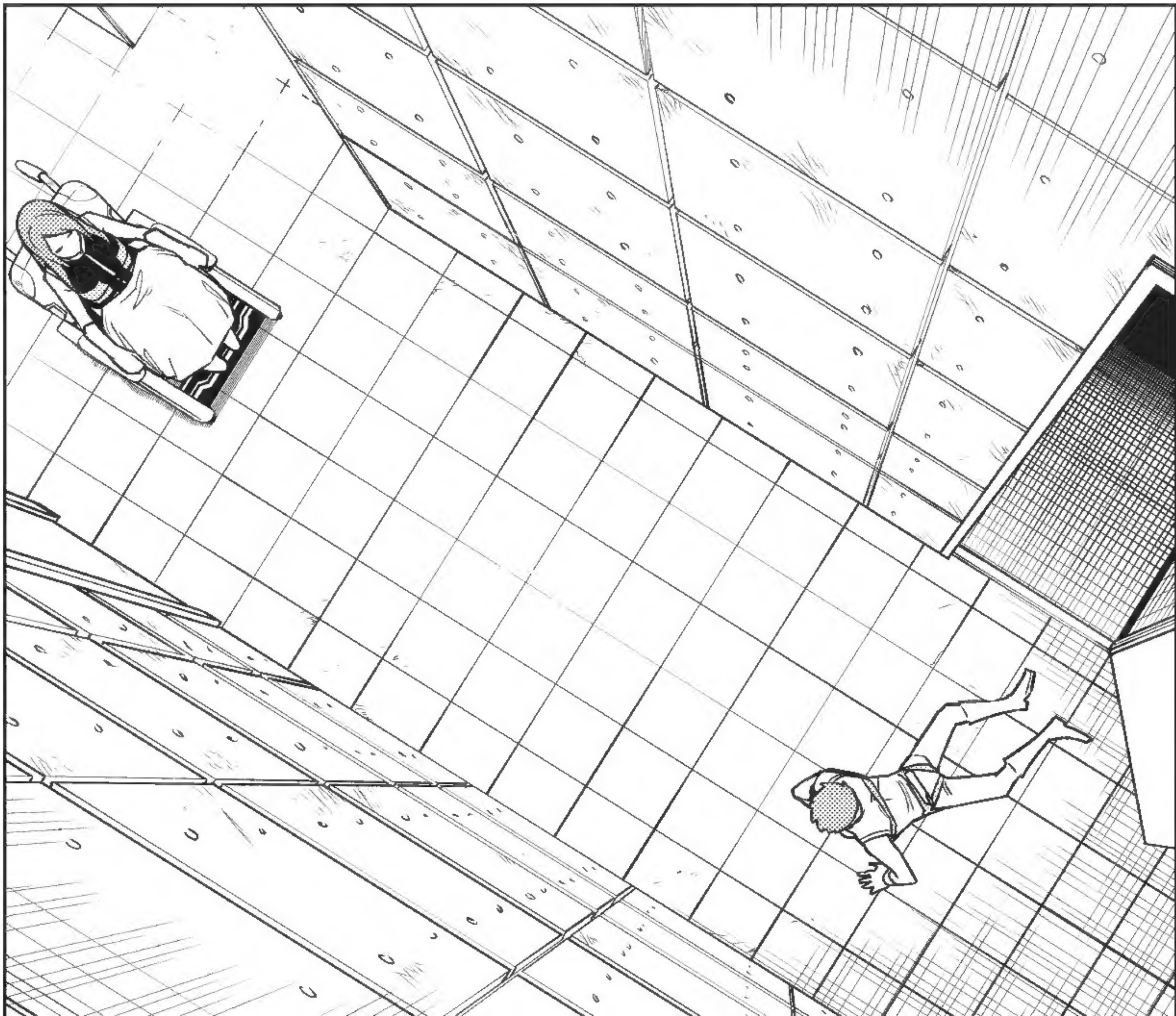
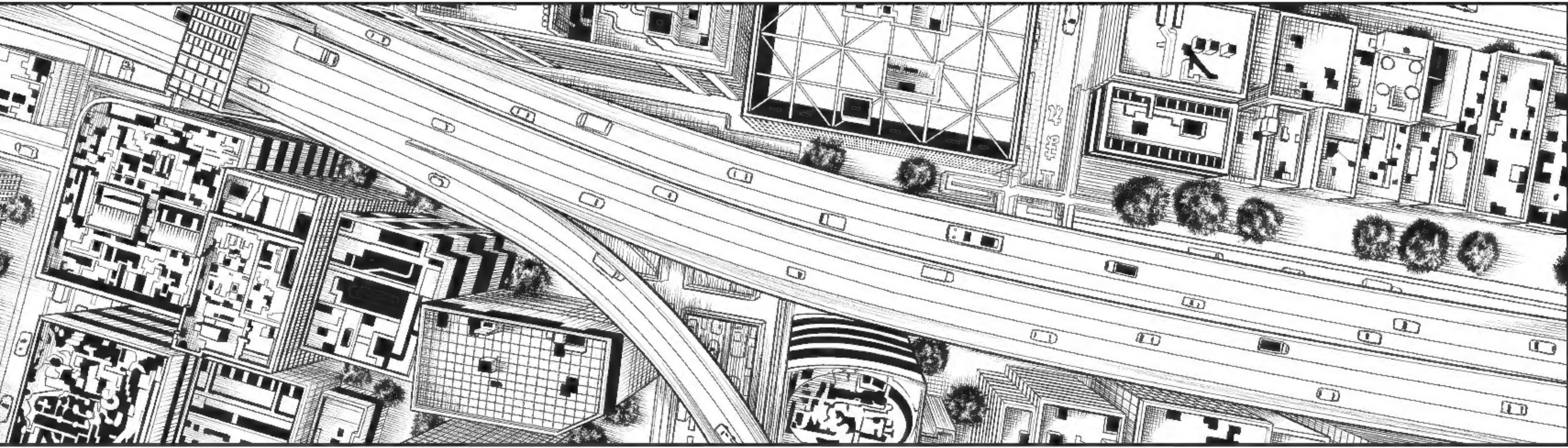
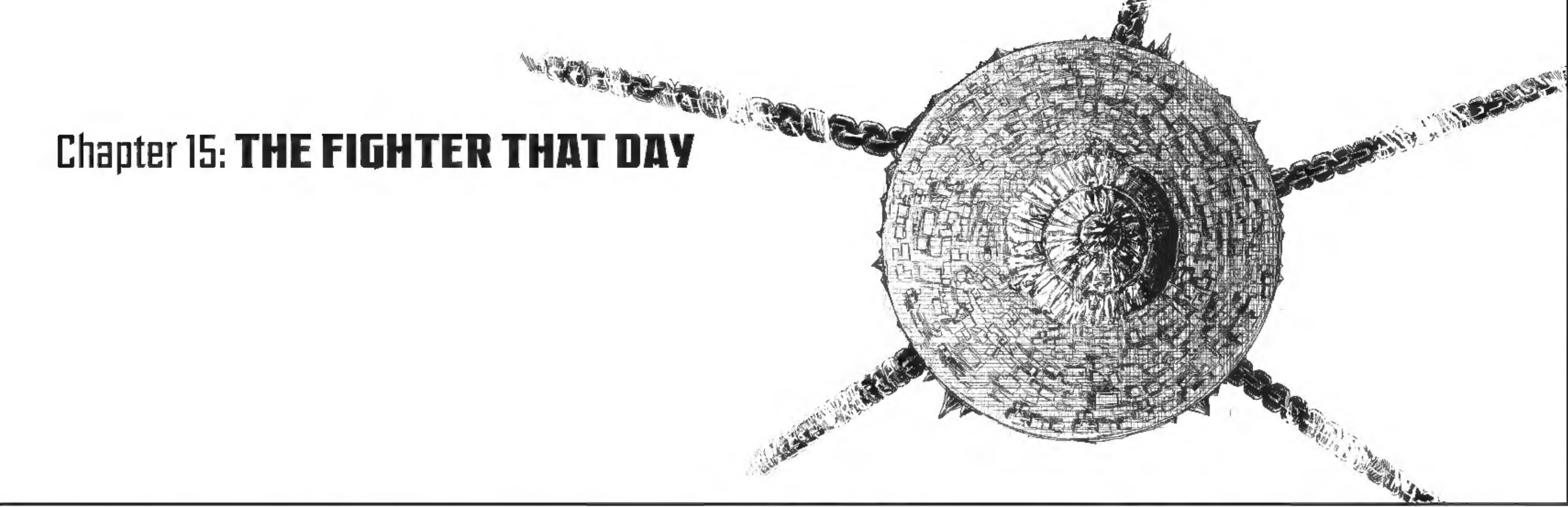
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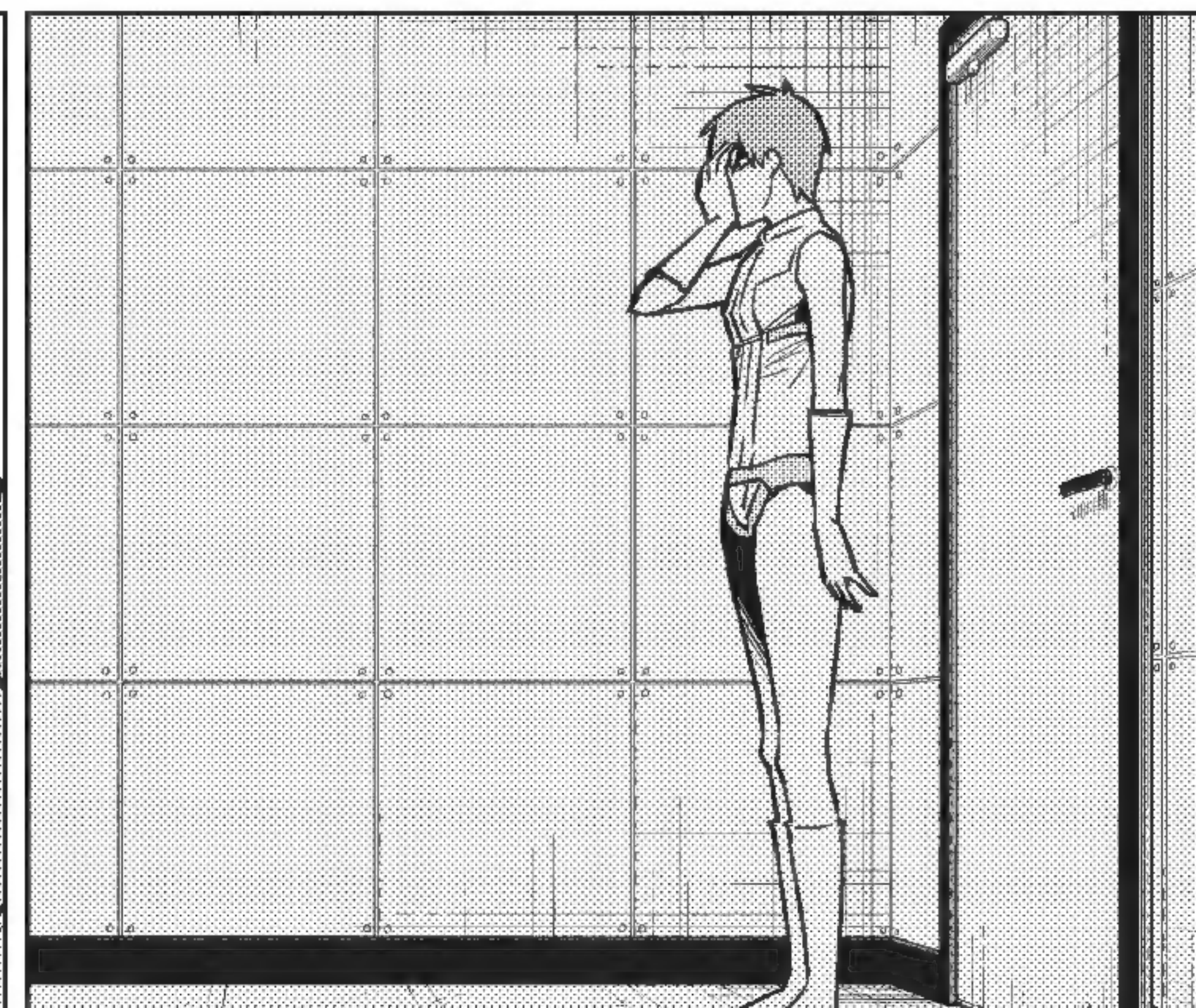
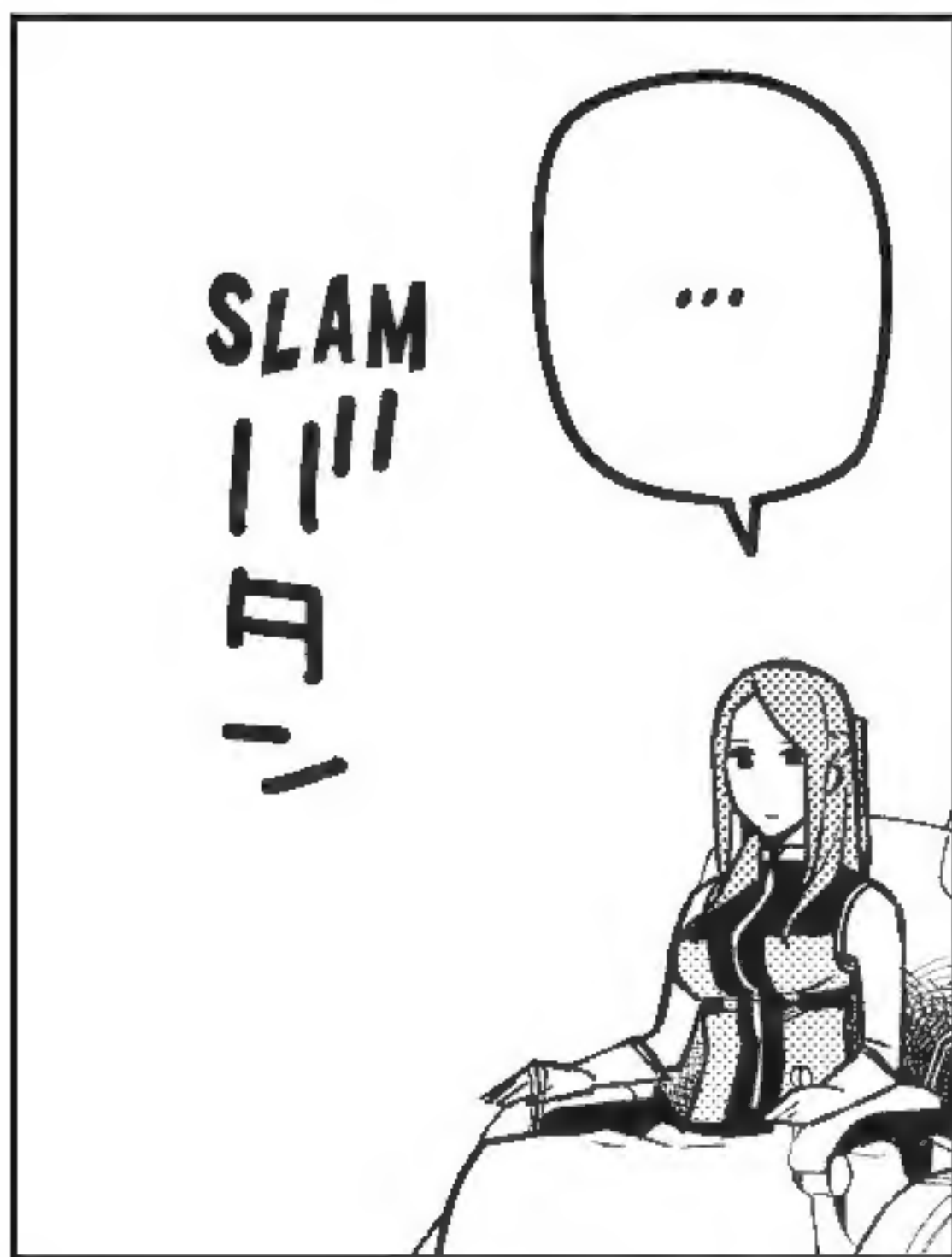
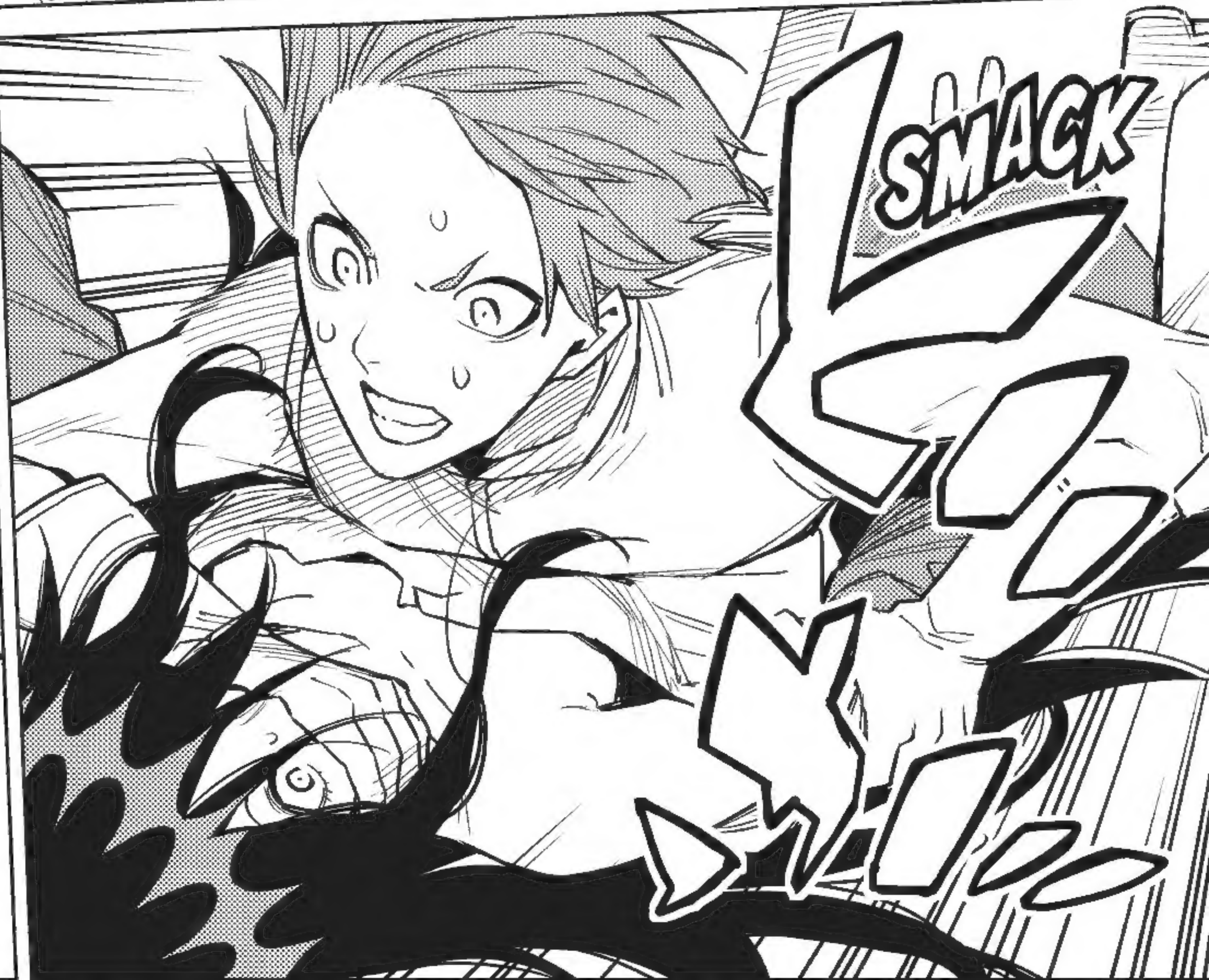
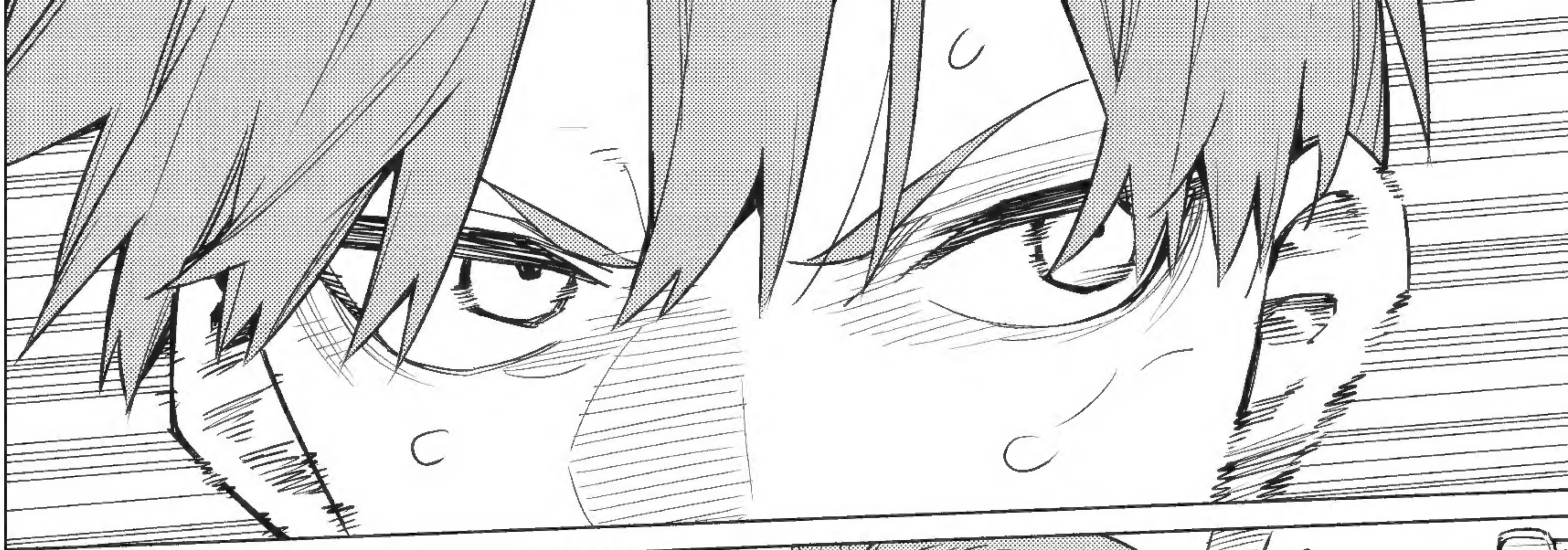
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Chapter 15: **THE FIGHTER THAT DAY**







I'M A
MONSTER...

...BUT
YOU MUST
HAVE HAD
A CREEPING
SUSPICION,
RIGHT?

I'M SORRY
I DIDN'T
TELL YOU
SOONER...



YOU-

YOU
SHOULDN'T
FORCE
PEOPLE
LIKE THIS.



WHAT'S
GOTTEN
INTO
YOU...?

SO...
IS THIS
HOW YOU
REALLY
ARE...?



...DOES
SAKURAMA
HAVE WITH
THIS GIRL...?

EXACTLY
WHAT KIND
OF RELATION-
SHIP...

...?



I'M
NOT HIBIKI
SAKURAMA.



I'M THE
SAME AS
YOU. A
FIGHTER.

IT'S A LONG
STORY, BUT
I'VE TAKEN THIS
FORM IN ORDER
TO INFILTRATE
THE RANGER
FORCE.



HIBIKI...
ERM, NO...

I'VE LONG
SEARCHED FOR
A WAY OUT OF
THIS PLACE...

I NEVER
THOUGHT I
STILL HAD ANY
COMRADES
LEFT ON THE
SURFACE.



MY
APOLO-
GIES!





CAN I COME IN YET?

HIBIKI?



WHAT DOES SHE MEAN BY THAT...?

RESCUE HER...?

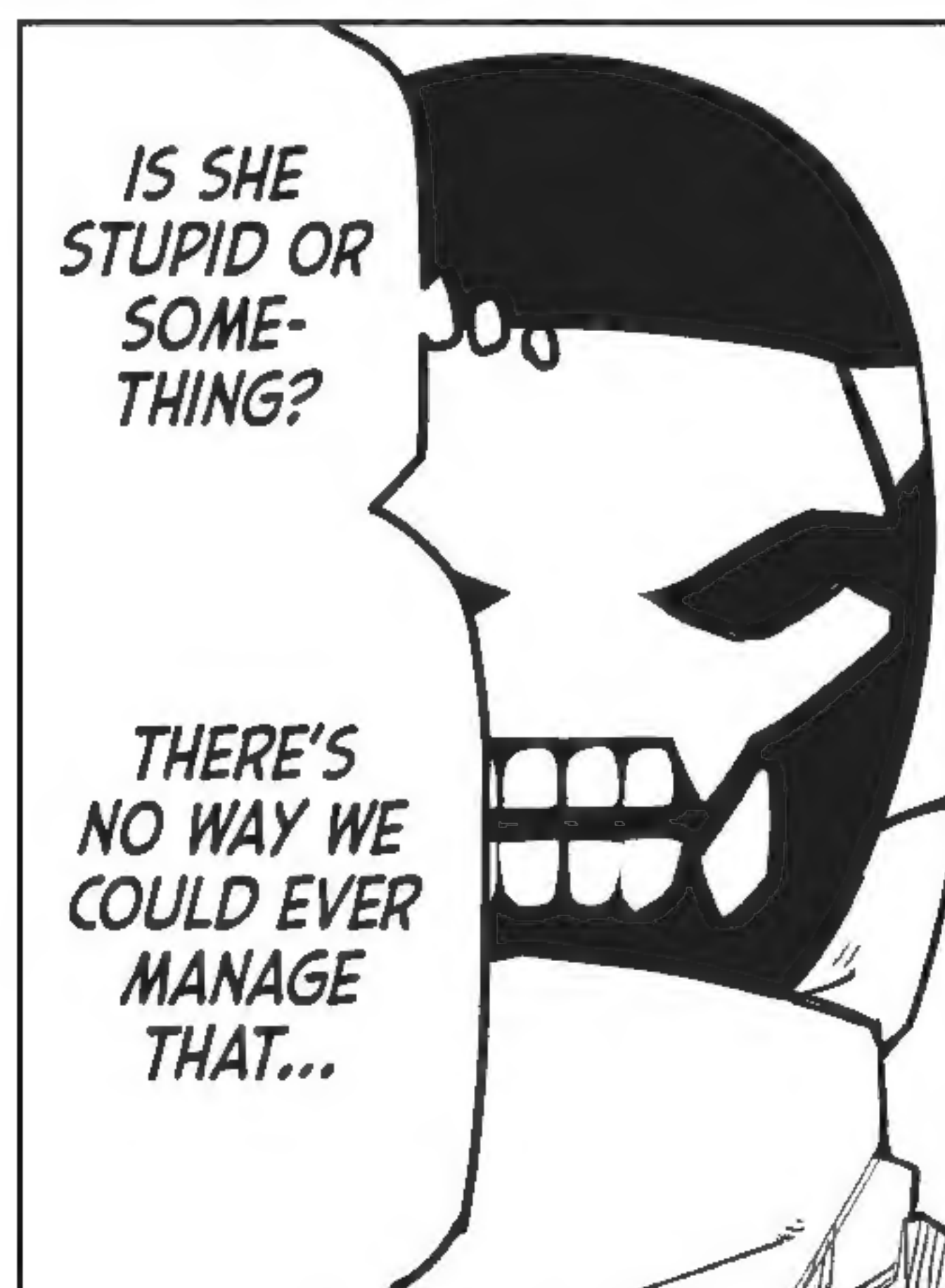
KNOCK KNOCK



BUT NOW I SEE.

YOU'VE COME TO RESCUE ME AT LAST.

...

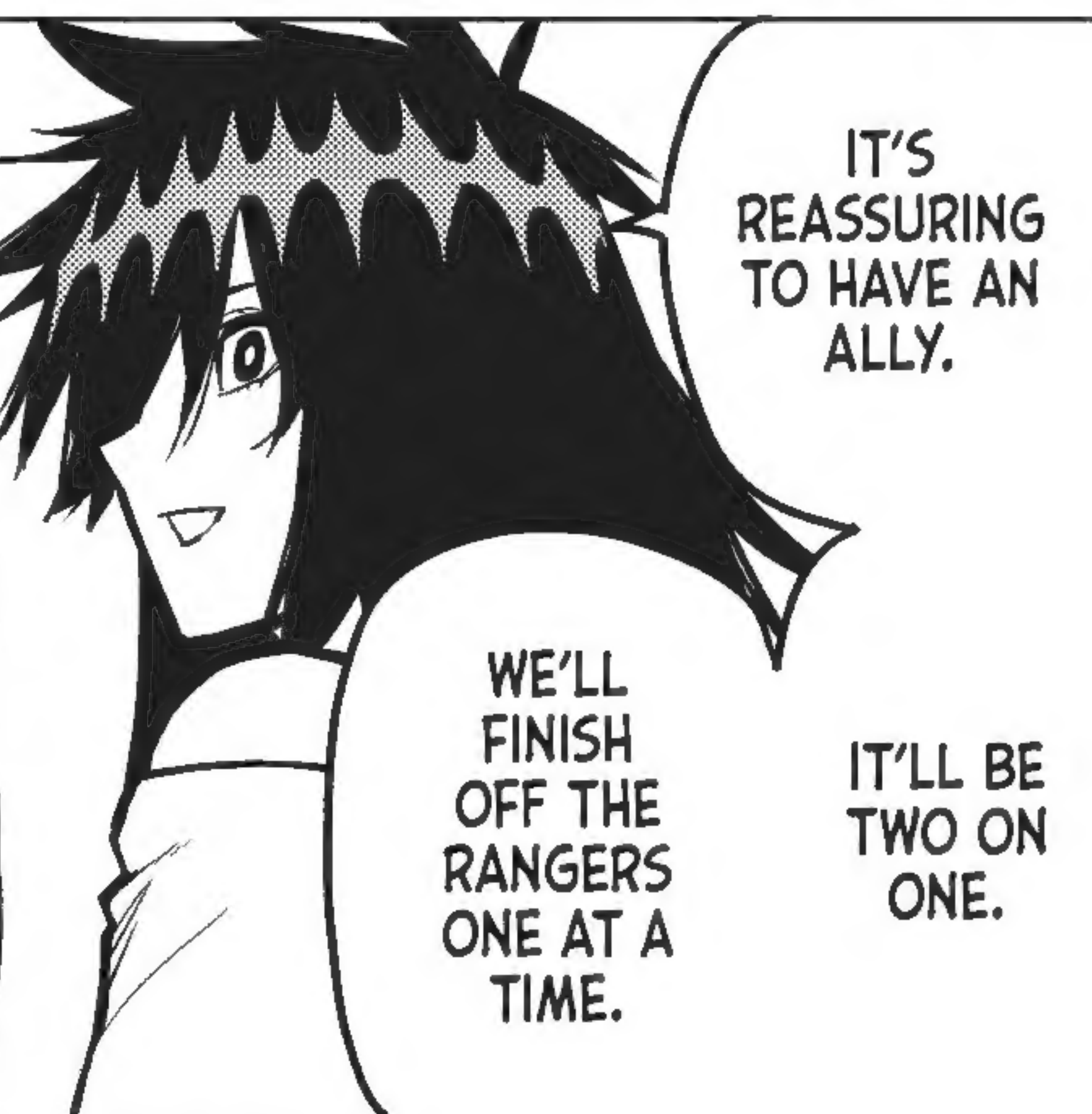


IS SHE STUPID OR SOMETHING?

THERE'S NO WAY WE COULD EVER MANAGE THAT...



!



IT'S REASSURING TO HAVE AN ALLY.

WE'LL FINISH OFF THE RANGERS ONE AT A TIME.

IT'LL BE TWO ON ONE.



KREAK

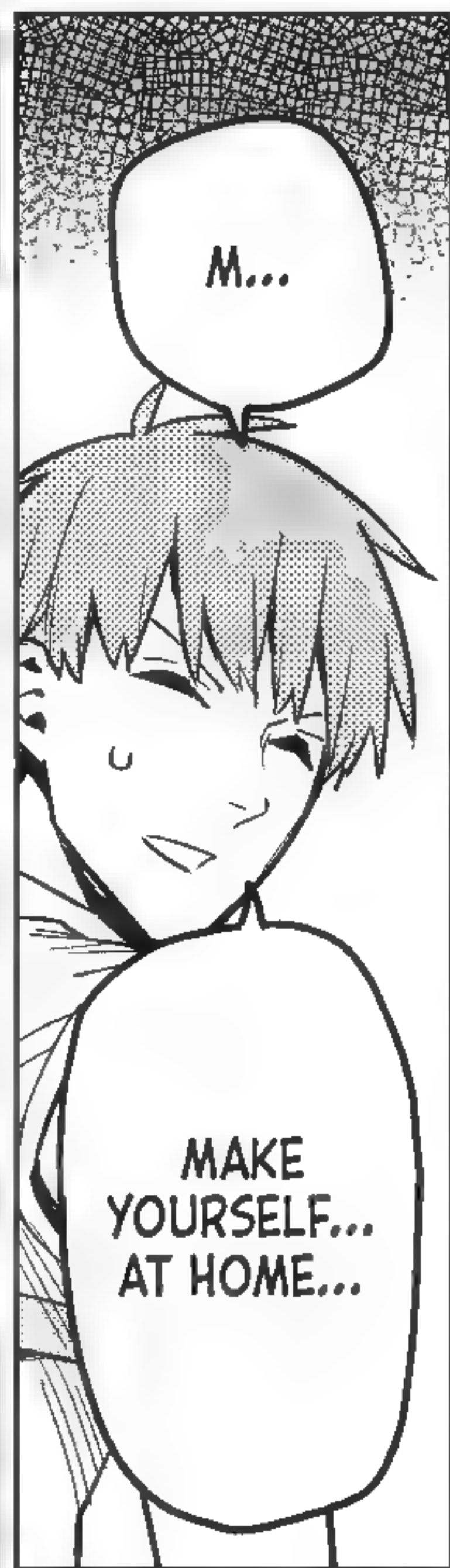
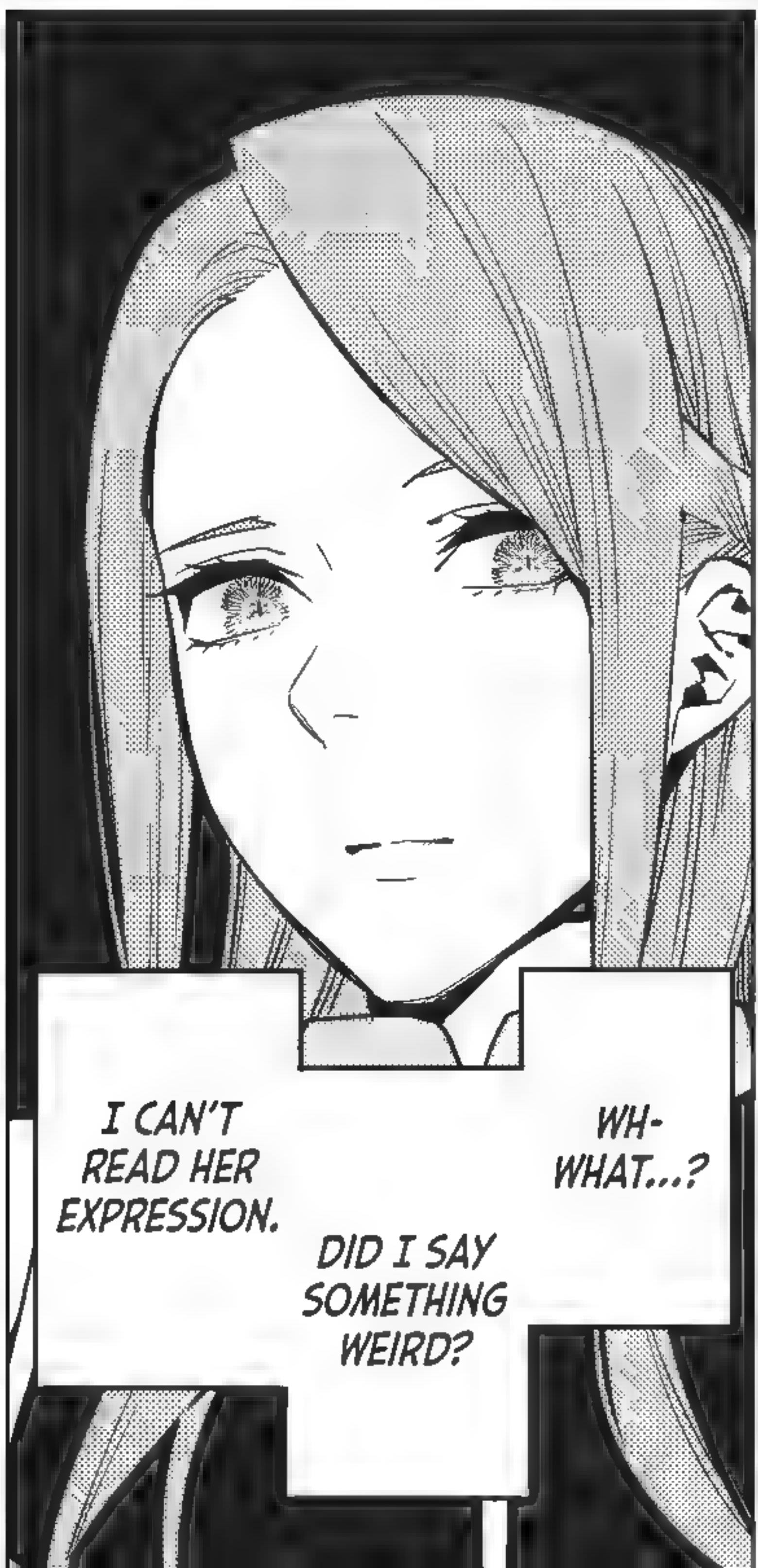
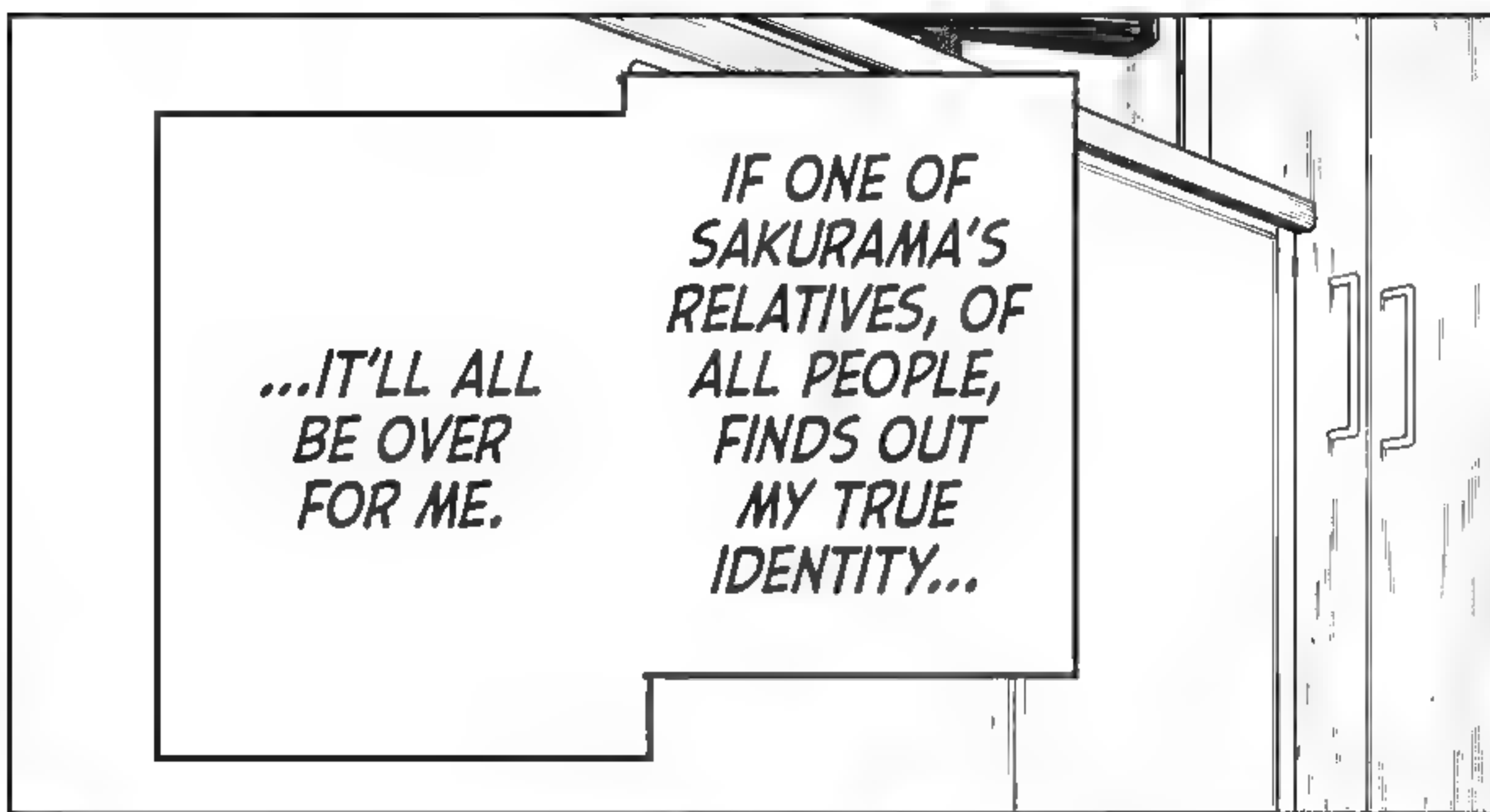
I SHALL DEFER TO YOU.

UNDERSTOOD, COMRADE.



I NEED YOU TO STAY HIDDEN UNTIL I GIVE YOU THE SIGNAL.

NO, IT'S NOT TIME FOR THAT YET.





DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE IN A REAL FIGHT NOW?

NOT THAT FIGHTERS WOULD PUT UP MUCH OF A CHALLENGE.

YEP... I BATTLED THOSE FIGHTERS.

I GUESS THE FINAL EXAM IS COMING UP.

HAVE YOU BEEN DOING SIMULATED BATTLE TRAINING?



BAM



OKAY, SEE YOU REALLY...? SOON...



THEY HAVE SOME IN THE CAFETERIA. LET'S GO TOGETHER.

I'LL GO BORROW ONE, THEN.

I'D LIKE TO SPEAK WITH YOU ALONE, HIBIKI.

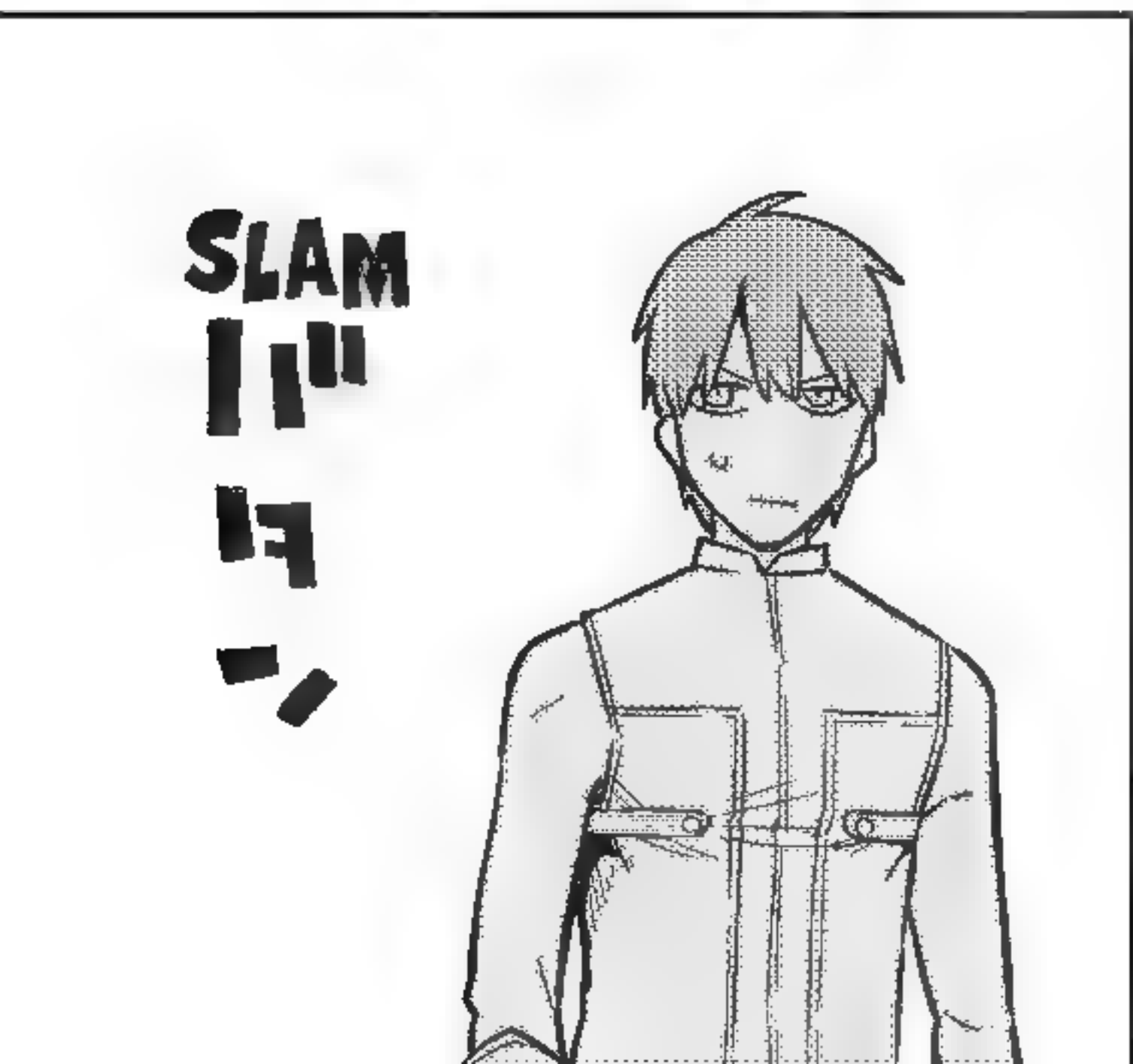


APPLES.

YOU LIKE THEM, RIGHT?

S-SORRY, SEEMS LIKE THE PIPES ARE ACTING UP...

WHAT'RE THOSE, SESERA?



SLAM



OH! BUT I DON'T HAVE A KNIFE.

YEAH... I DO.



JUST
EAT THIS
AND WAIT
THERE.

HAVEN'T
YOU HEARD
OF PROPER
TIMING?



...

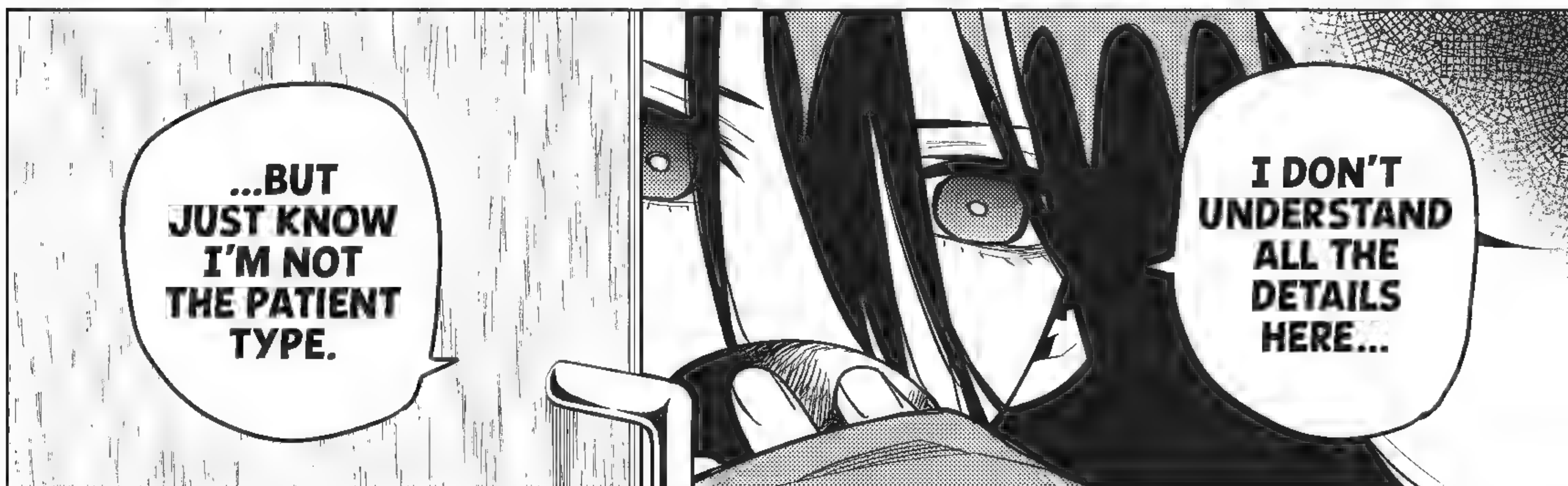
STAY
CALM.



HEY.

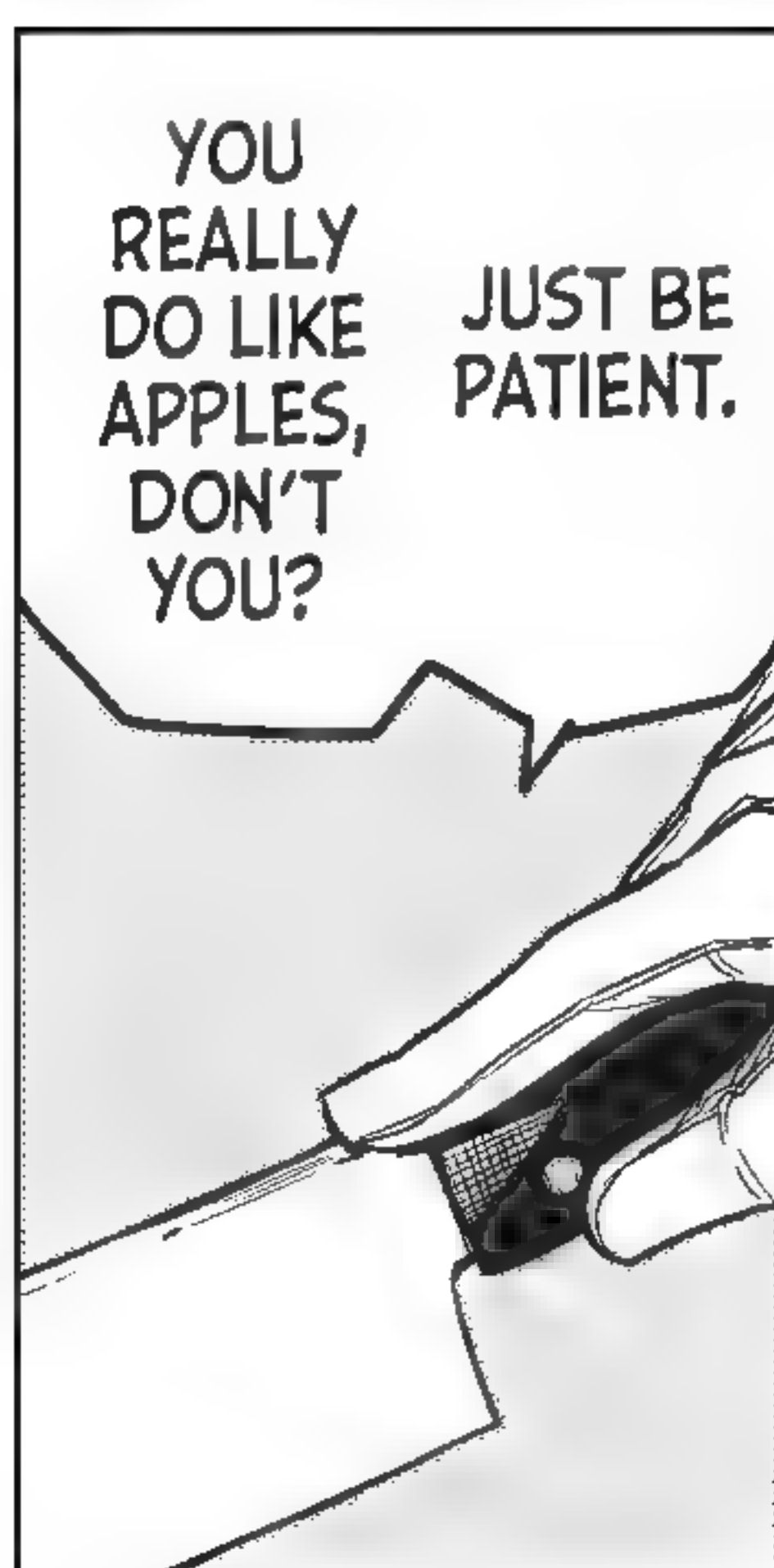
WHEN
DO WE
MAKE OUR
MOVE?

I'M
WAITING
FOR YOUR
SIGNAL.



...BUT
JUST KNOW
I'M NOT
THE PATIENT
TYPE.

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
ALL THE
DETAILS
HERE...



YOU
REALLY
DO LIKE
APPLES,
DON'T
YOU?

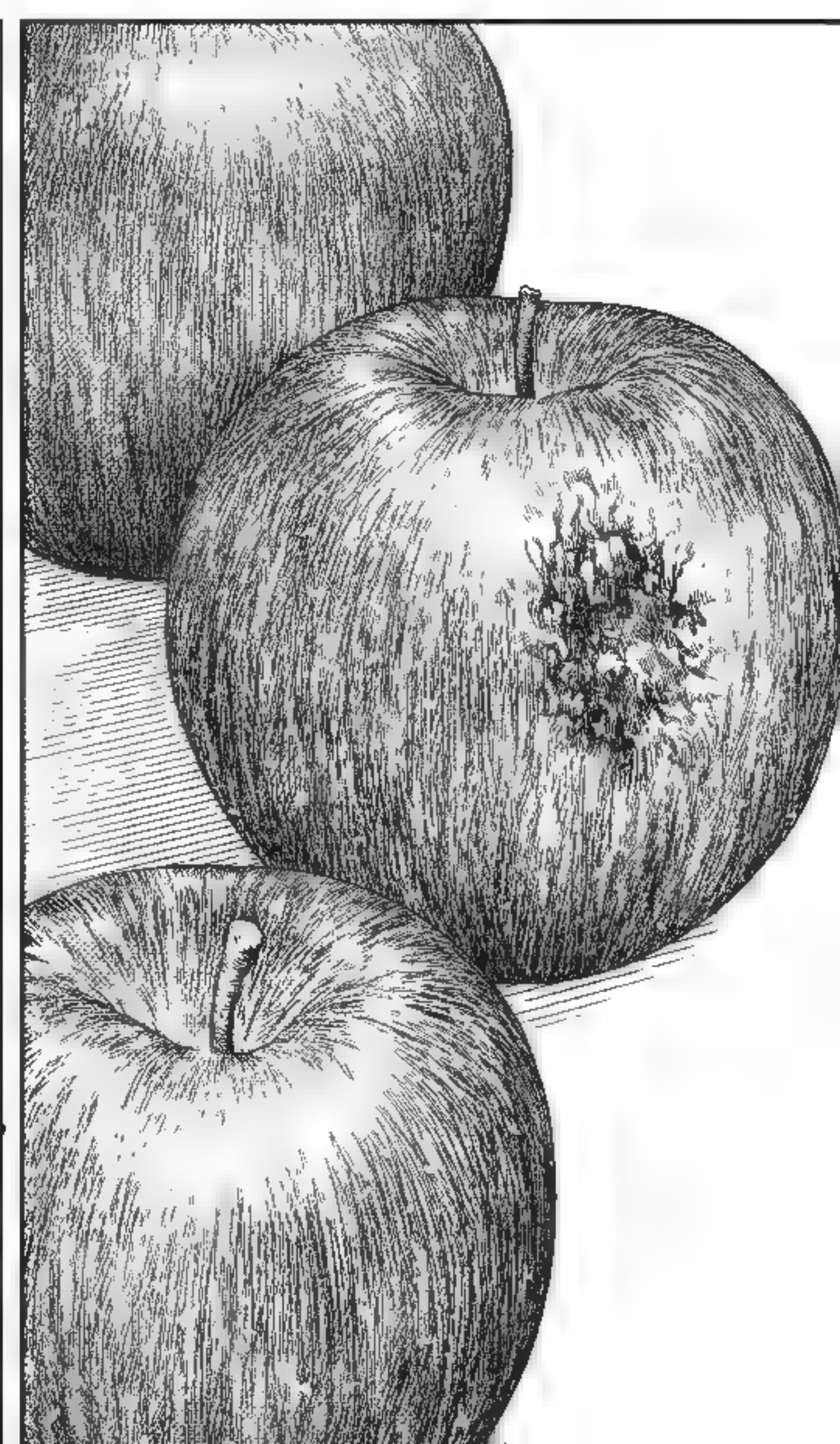
JUST BE
PATIENT.

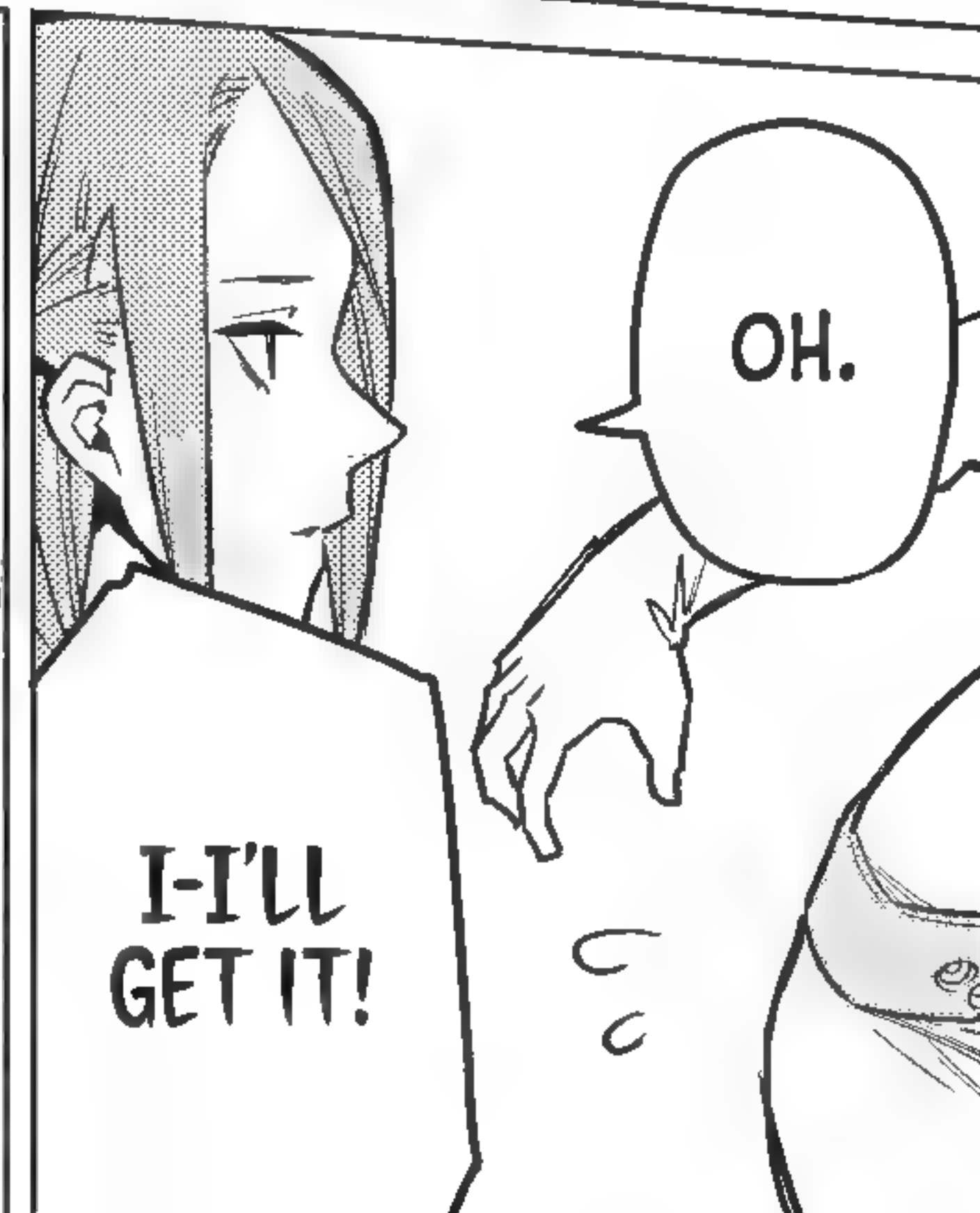
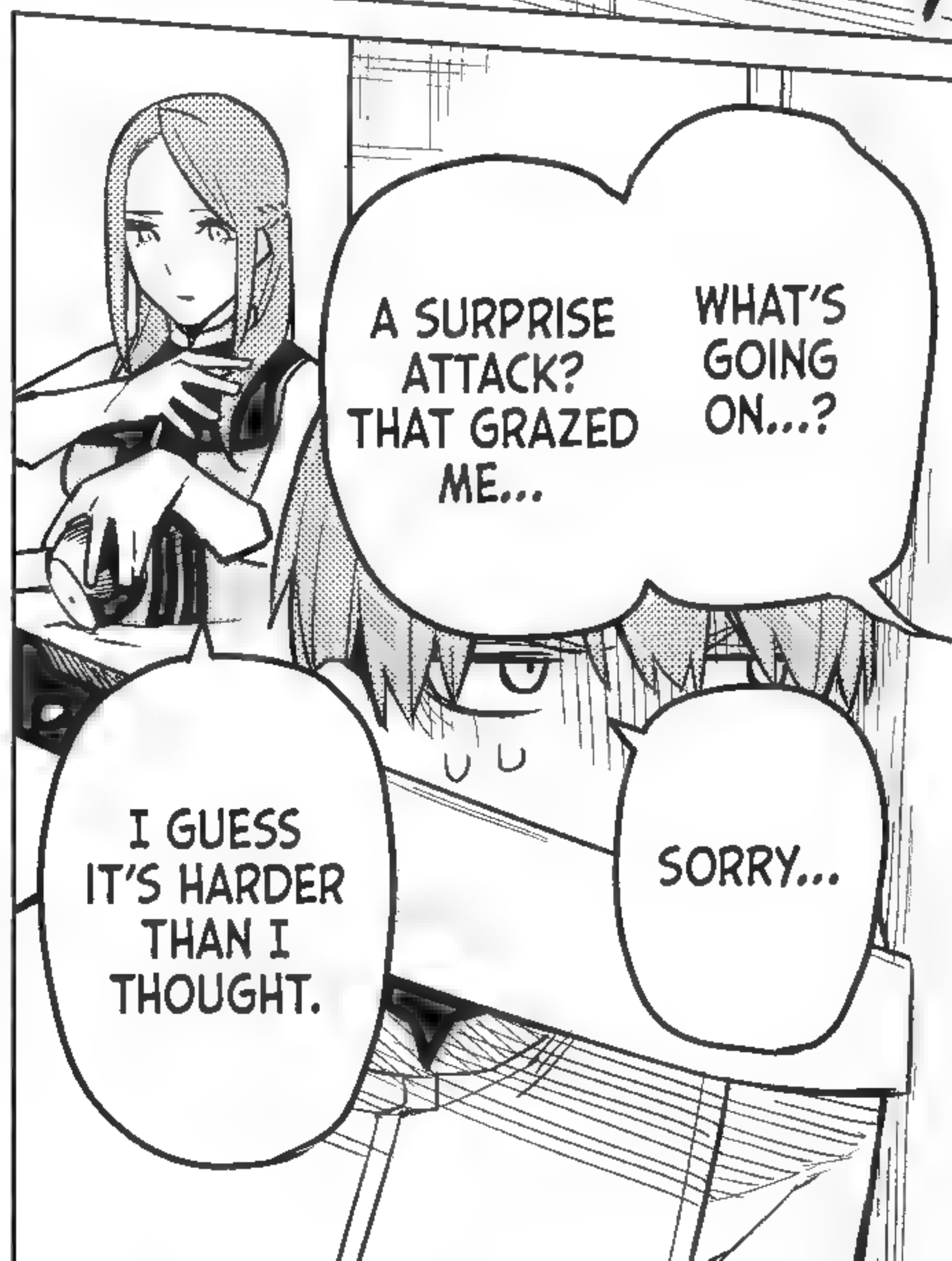
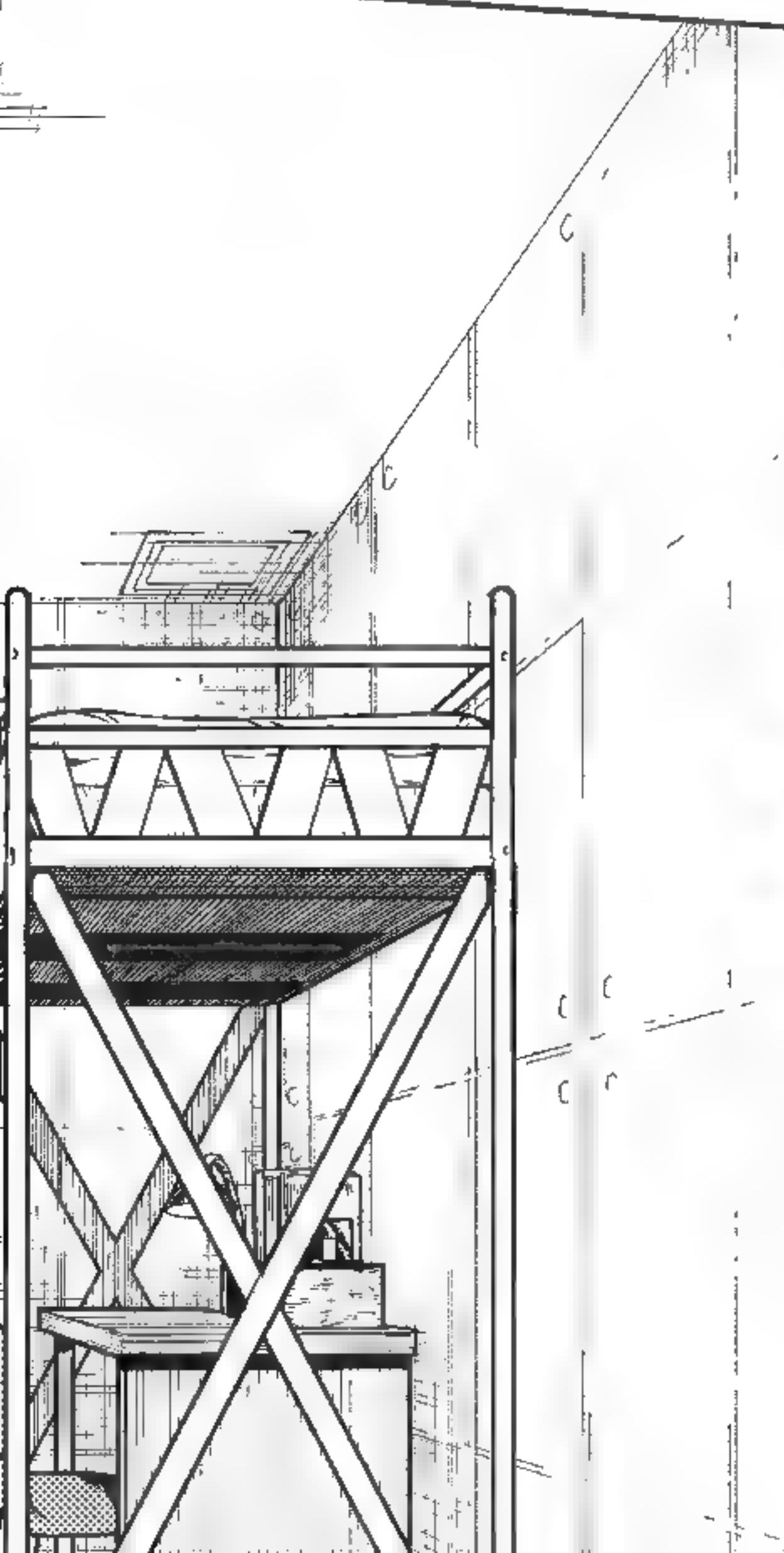
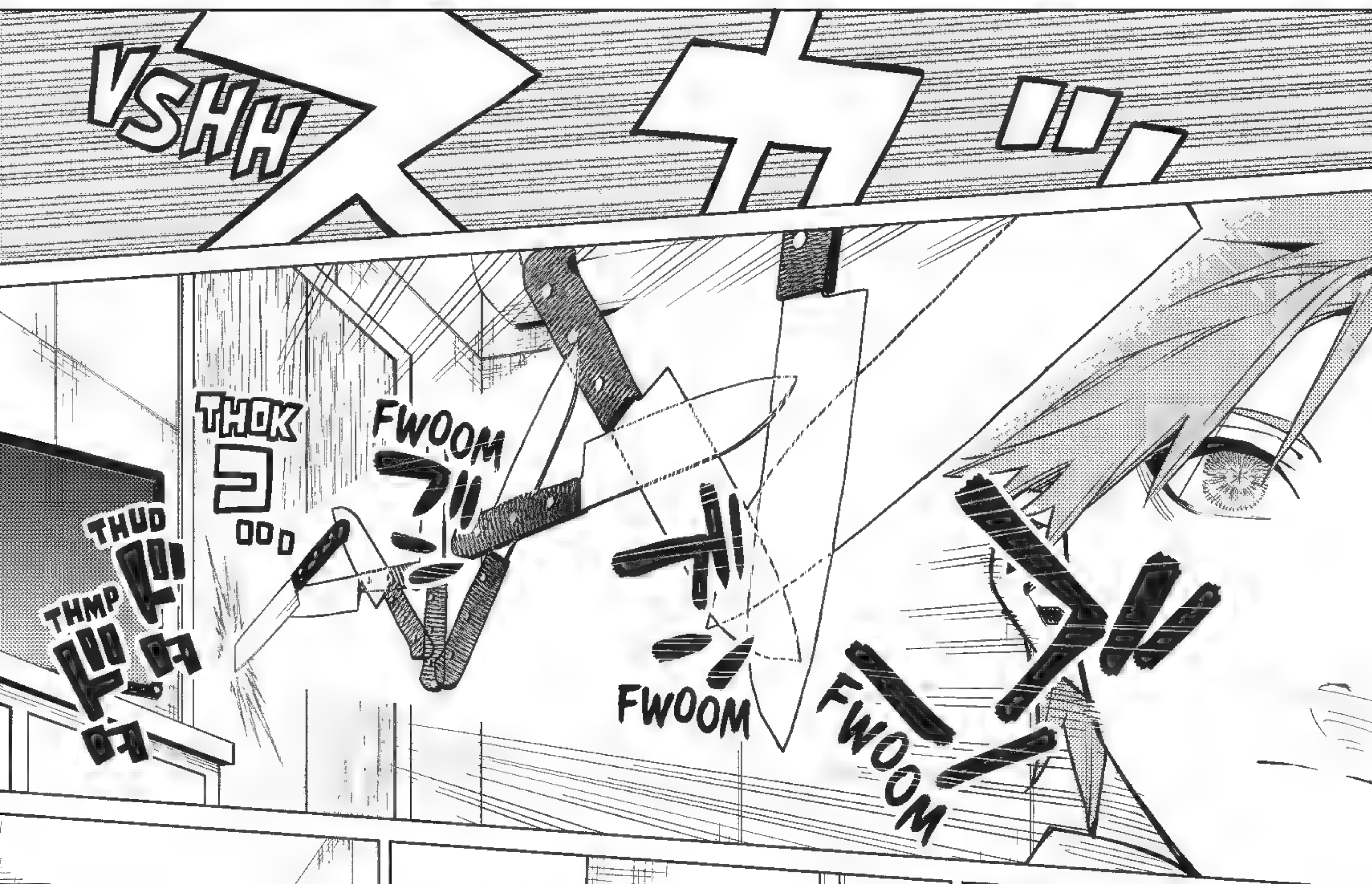
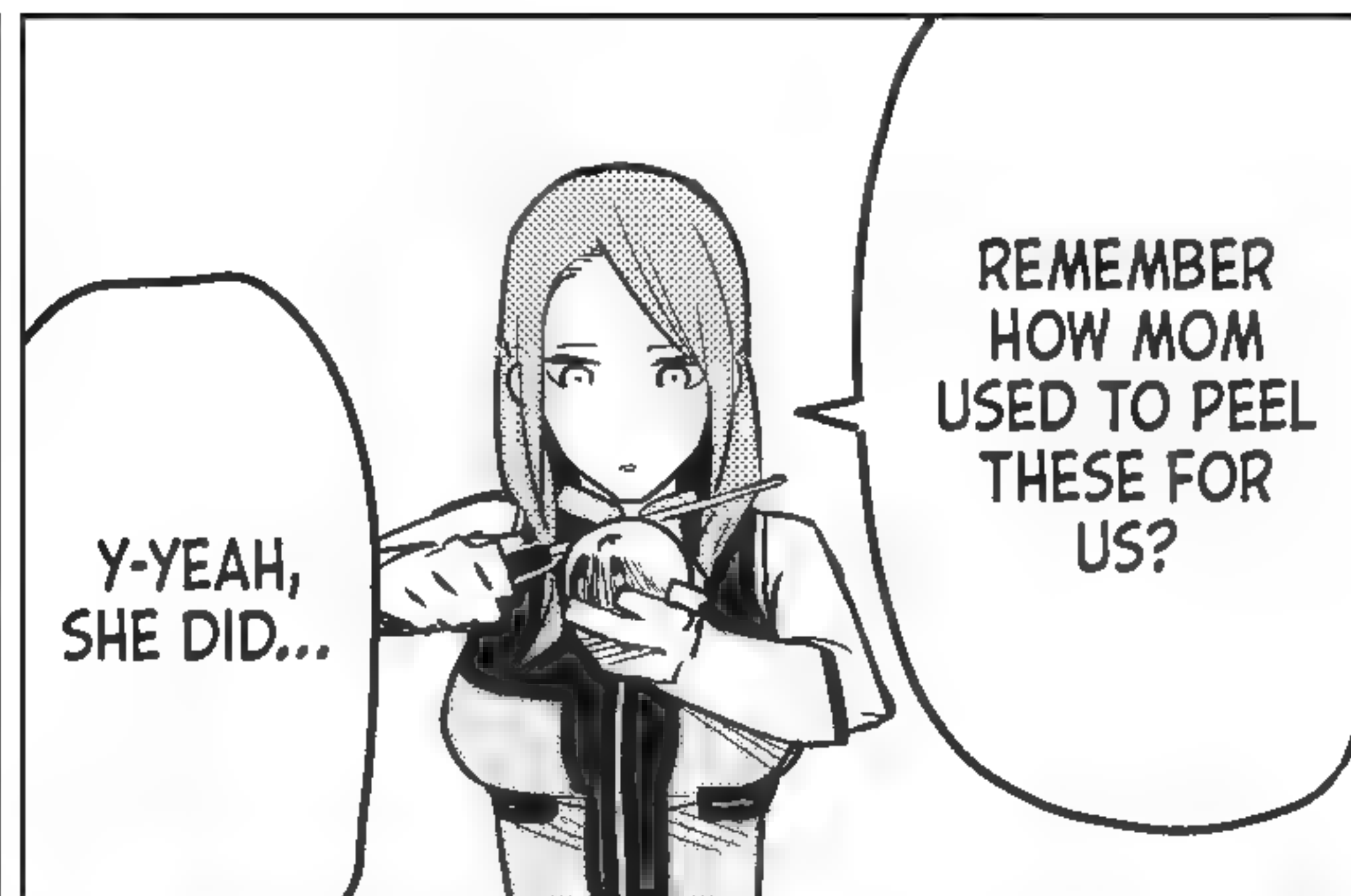
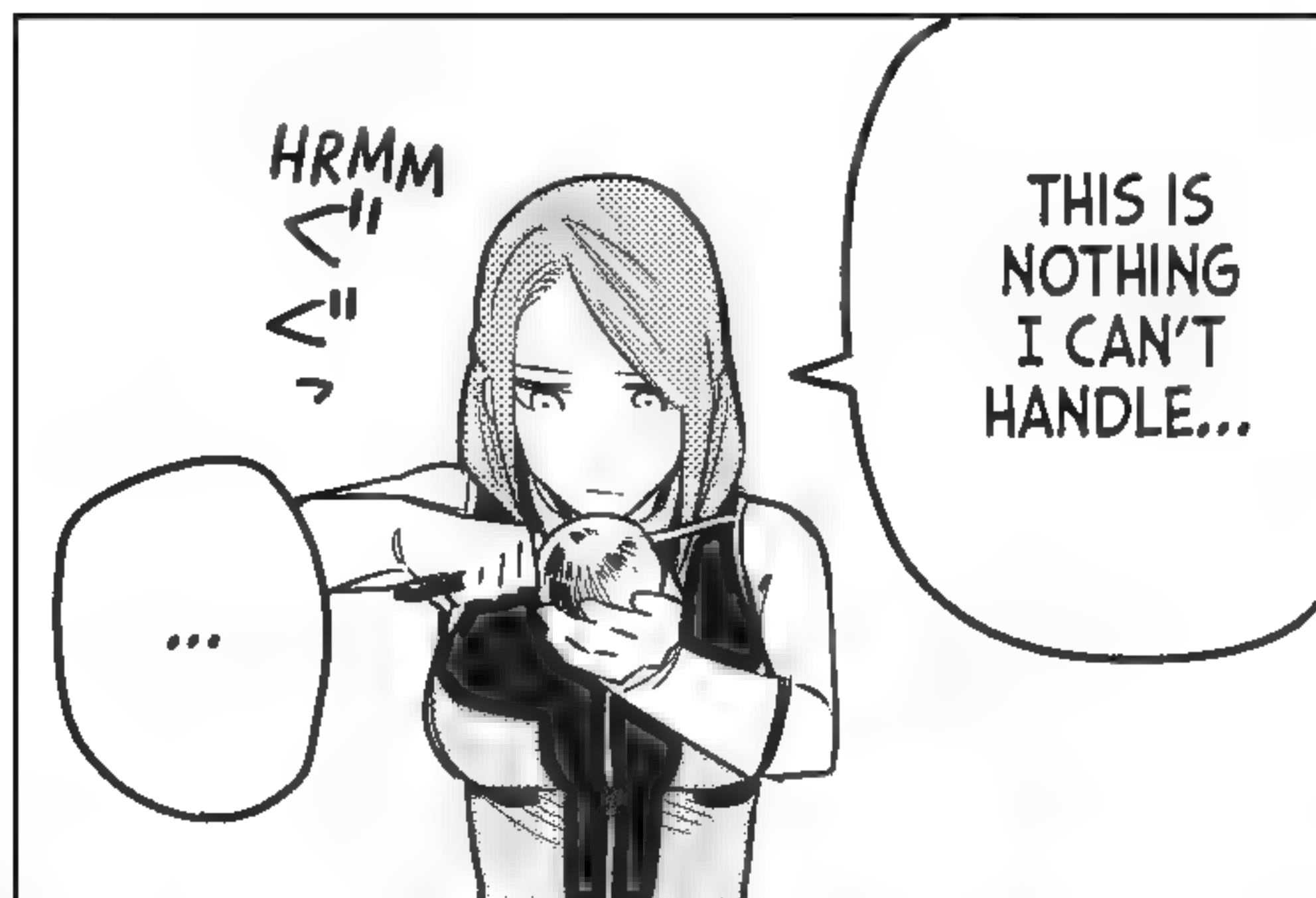


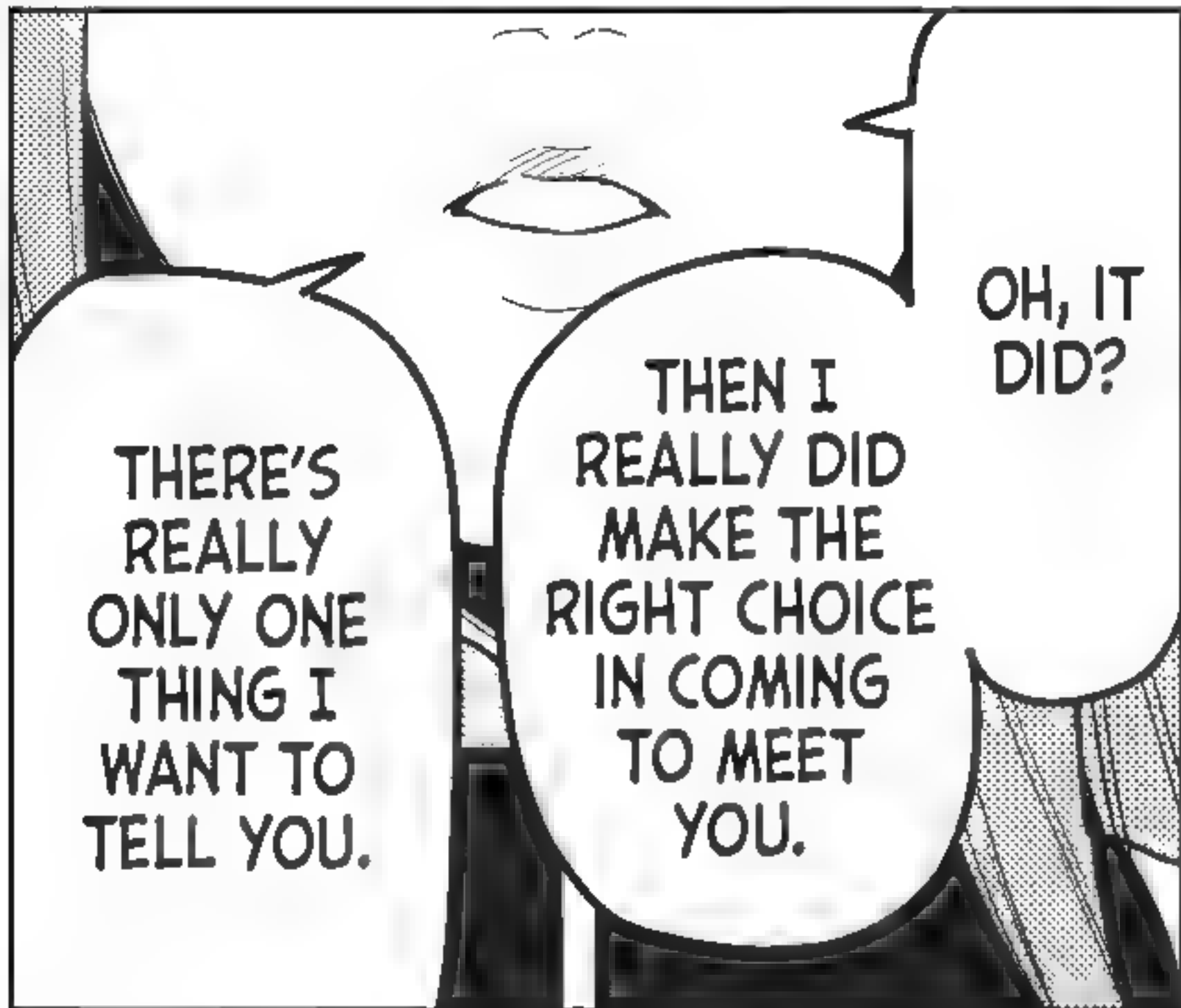
I-I SURE
CAN'T WAIT
TO EAT ONE!

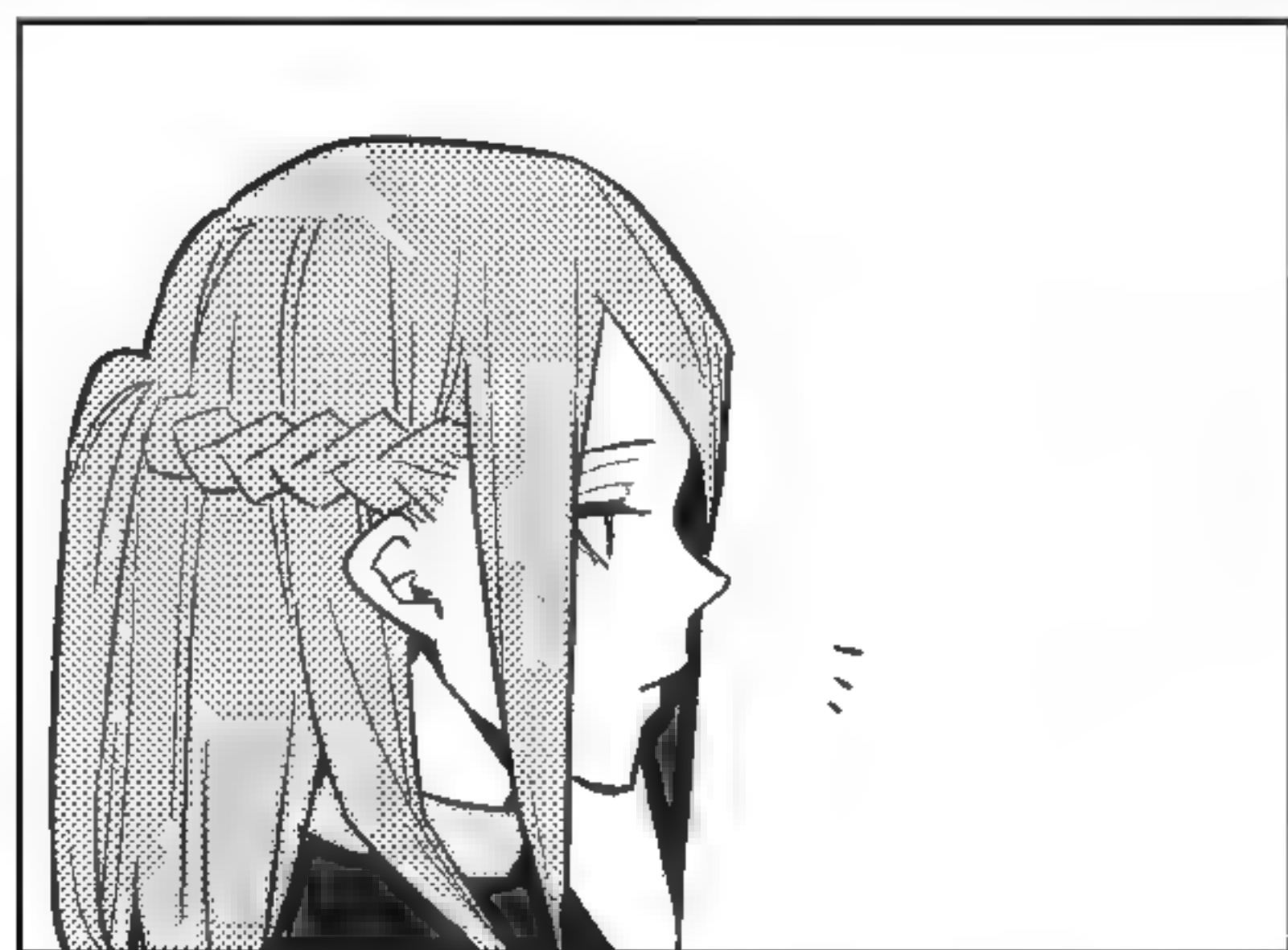
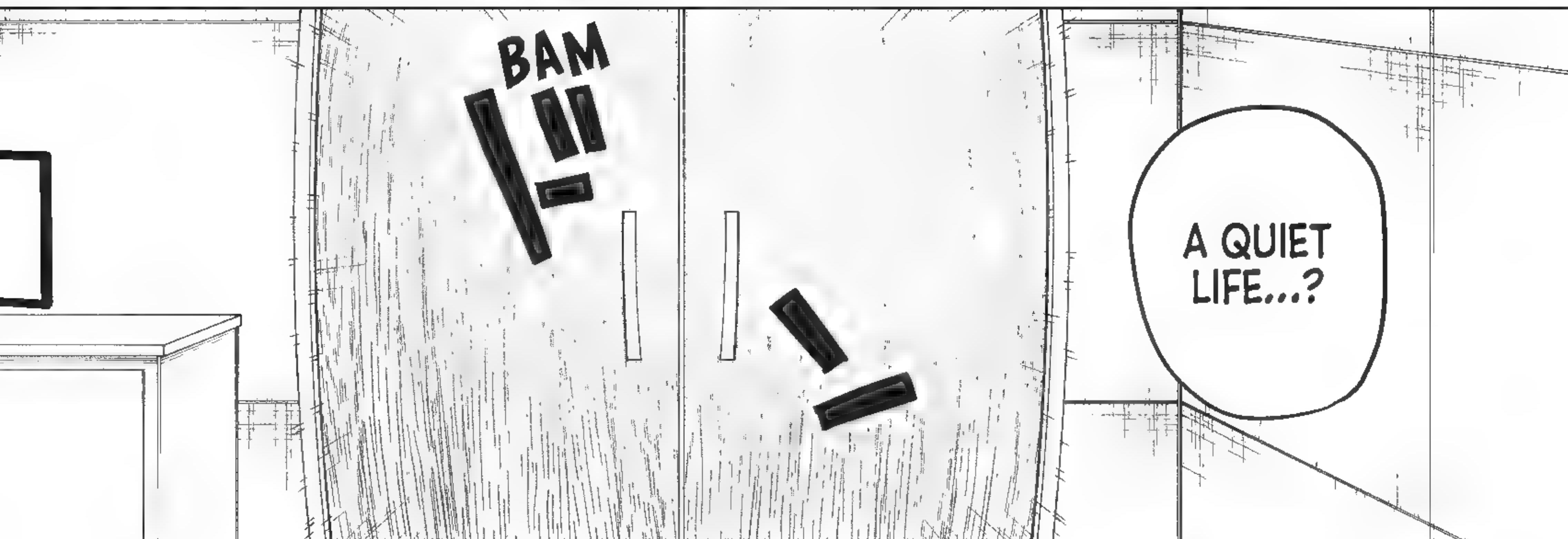
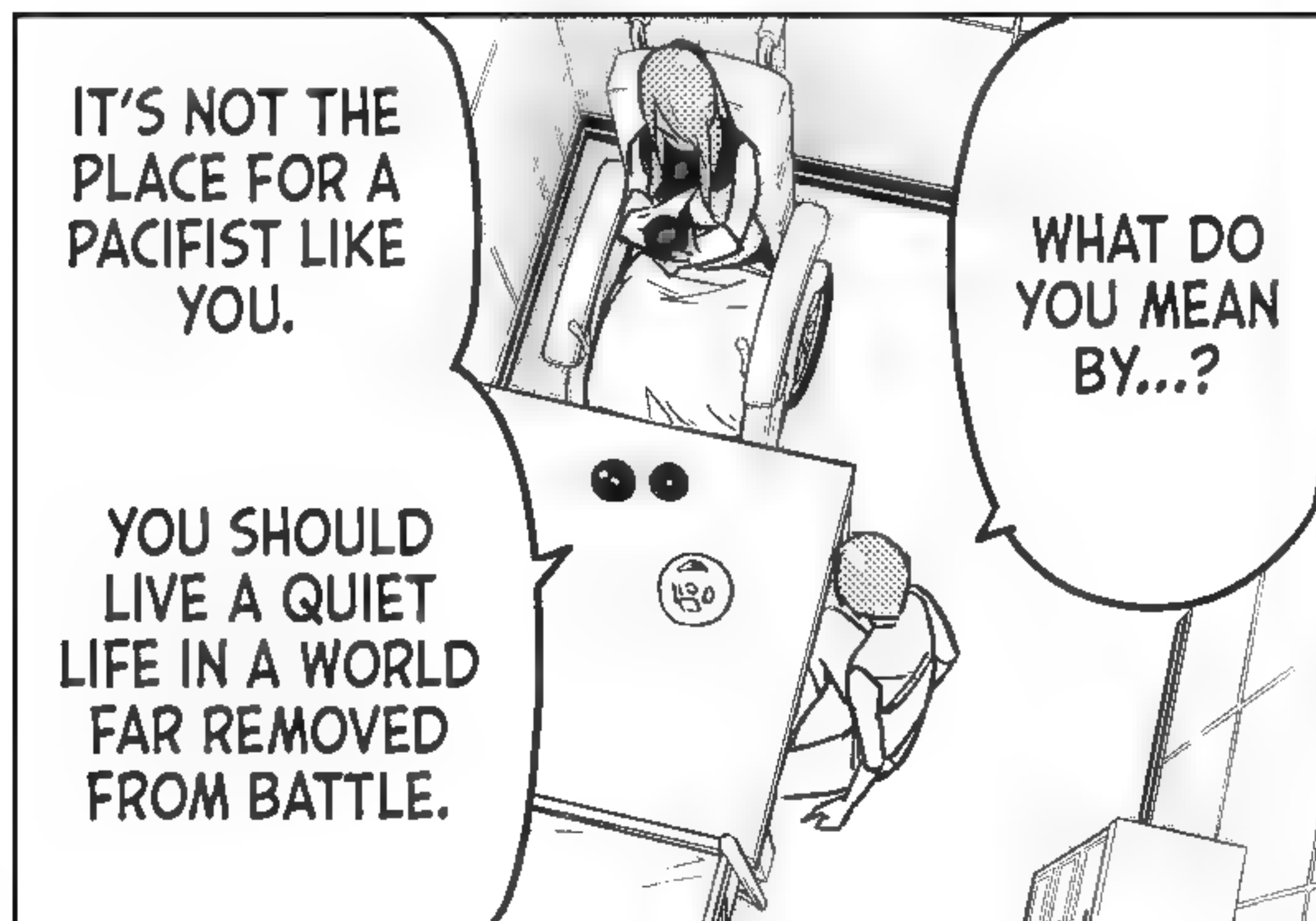
OH,
I GUESS
ONE OF
THEM WAS
BRUISED.

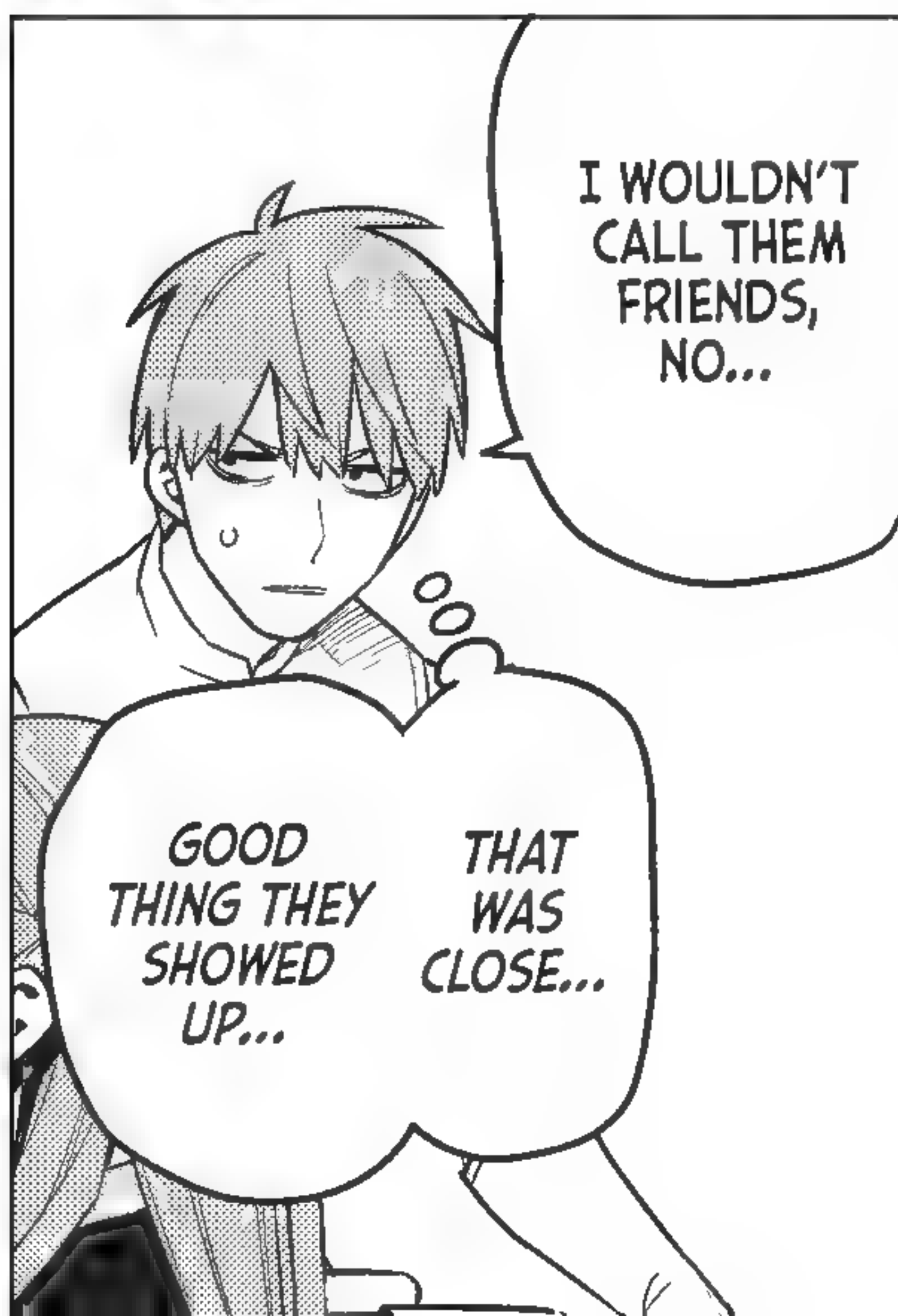
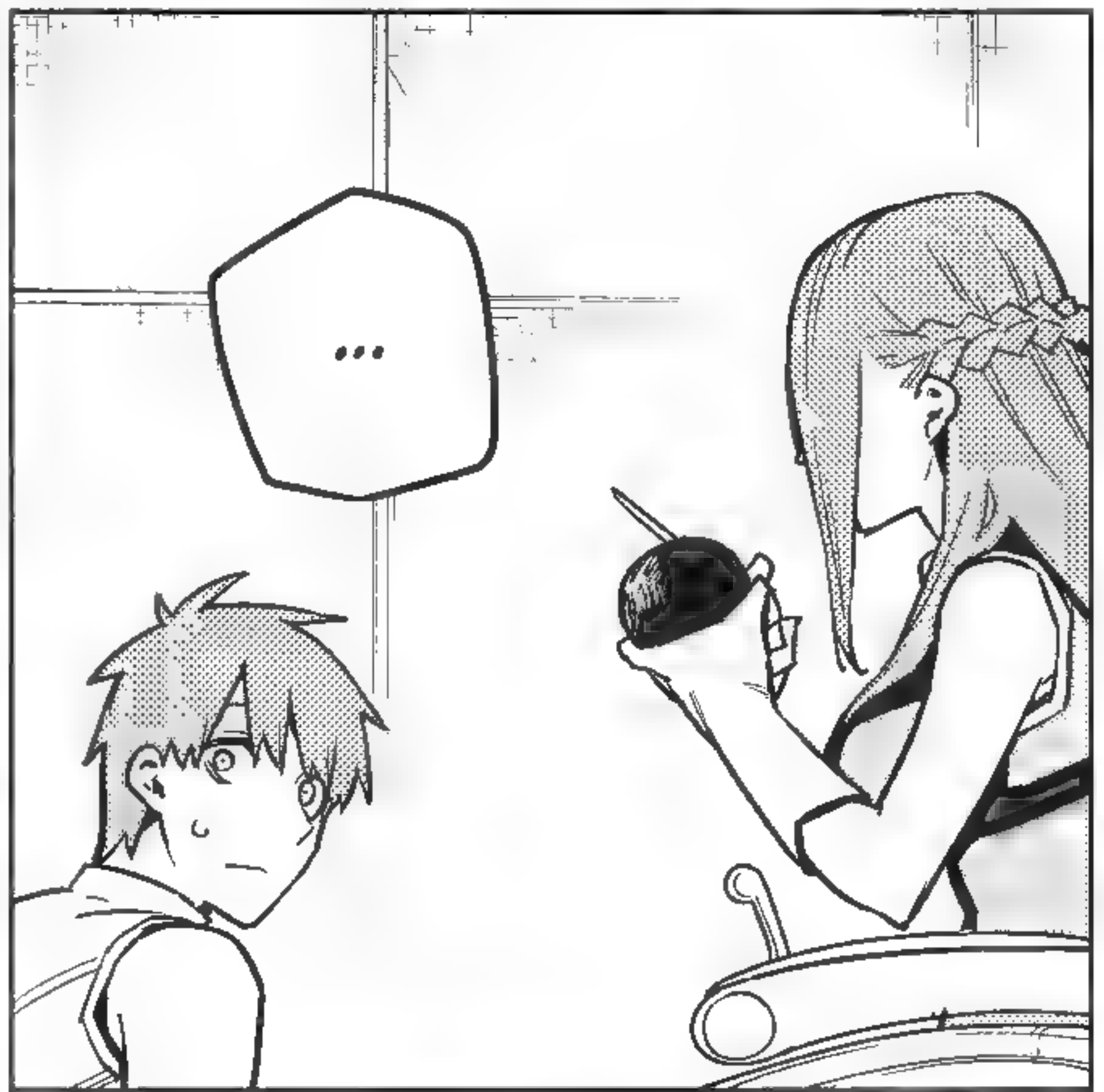
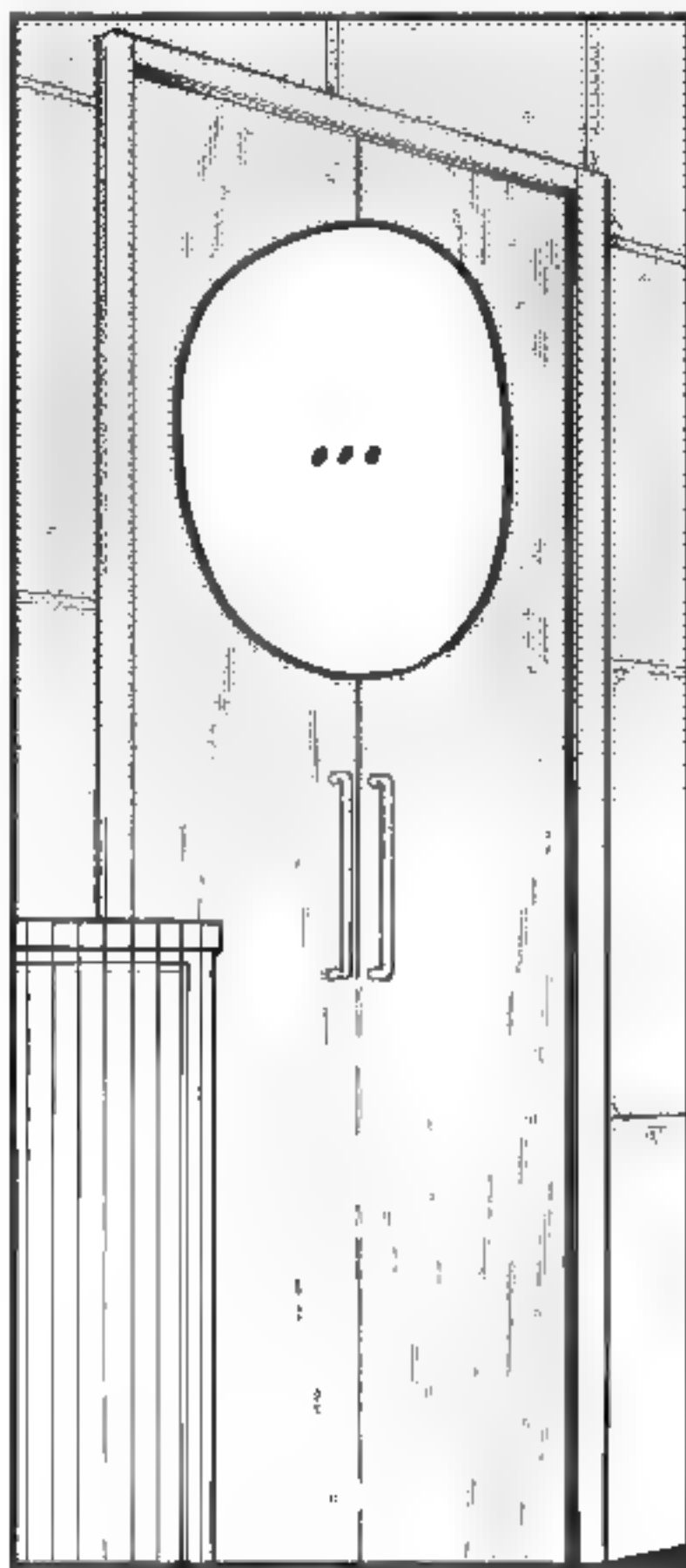
OR
ACTUALLY,
ISN'T ONE
MISSING...?













SESERA.

JUST SO YOU
KNOW, I'M
NOT HIBIKI'S
FRIEND...

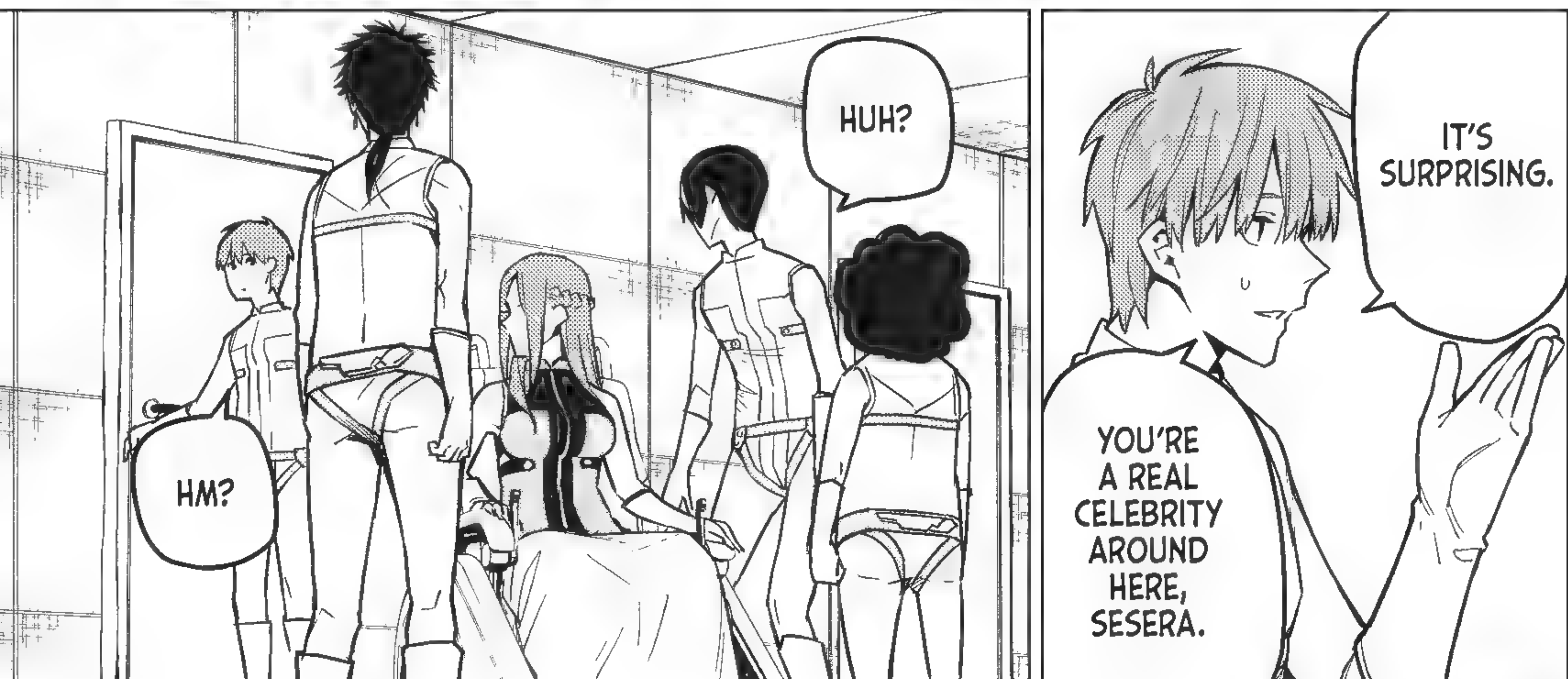
REALLY,
GUYS...?

I'M
HIS *BEST*
FRIEND,
YAMATO
KURUSU.

...

YES.

WE ALL GET
ALONG VERY
WELL WITH
HIBIKI-KUN.

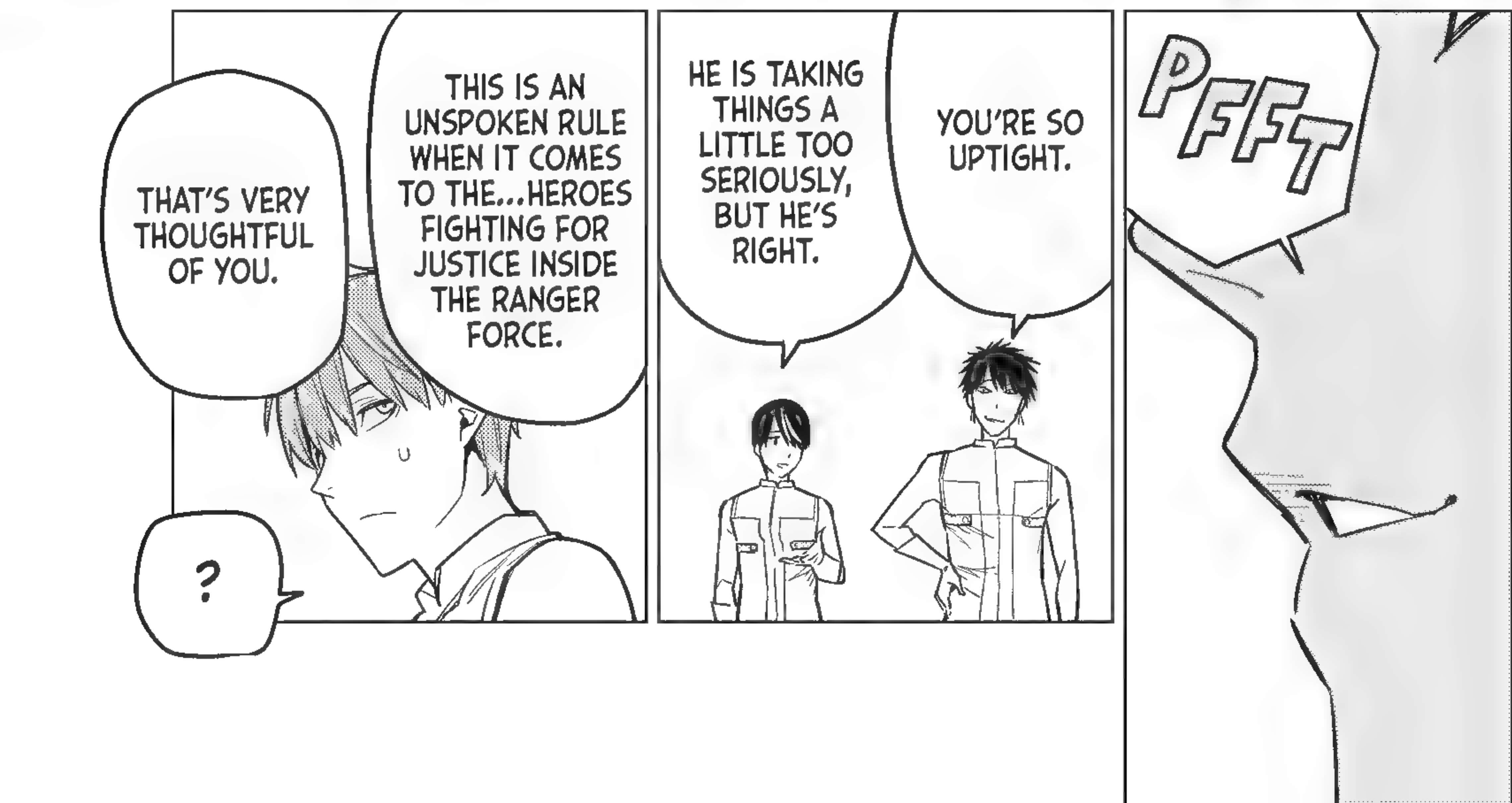


HUH?

HM?

IT'S
SURPRISING.

YOU'RE
A REAL
CELEBRITY
AROUND
HERE,
SESERA.



THAT'S VERY
THOUGHTFUL
OF YOU.

?

THIS IS AN
UNSPOKEN RULE
WHEN IT COMES
TO THE...HEROES
FIGHTING FOR
JUSTICE INSIDE
THE RANGER
FORCE.

HE IS TAKING
THINGS A
LITTLE TOO
SERIOUSLY,
BUT HE'S
RIGHT.

YOU'RE SO
UPTIGHT.

PFFT



I SEE THEM
A LOT, BUT I
GUESS THEY
AREN'T PART
OF THE FIGHT.

THE PINK
UNIT...

SO YOU
CAN BE IN
THE RANGER
FORCE WITH
LEGS LIKE
THAT?



OHH.
THE ROGUE
MONSTER?

AND THE
WAY THIS GUY
HERE SNUCK
OUT TO GET A
HEAD START
ON US.



WHAT ELSE?
IT MUST
BE WHAT
HAPPENED
YESTERDAY...

ANYWAY,
WHAT BRINGS
YOU HERE
ALL OF A
SUDDEN?



IT'S A GOOD
THING YOU
MADE IT BACK
UNHARMED.

YES, IT
REALLY
IS...



E-EVEN
REGULAR
FIGHTERS
ARE SCARY,
YOU KNOW!

THEY'RE
ABSOLUTELY
A THREAT TO
HUMANITY!

KEEP IT
DOWN, YOU
IDIOT...!

DON'T
RILE HER
UP EVEN
MORE!



I'M
SURE IT'S
DIFFERENT
FROM OUR
SIMULATED
BATTLES.

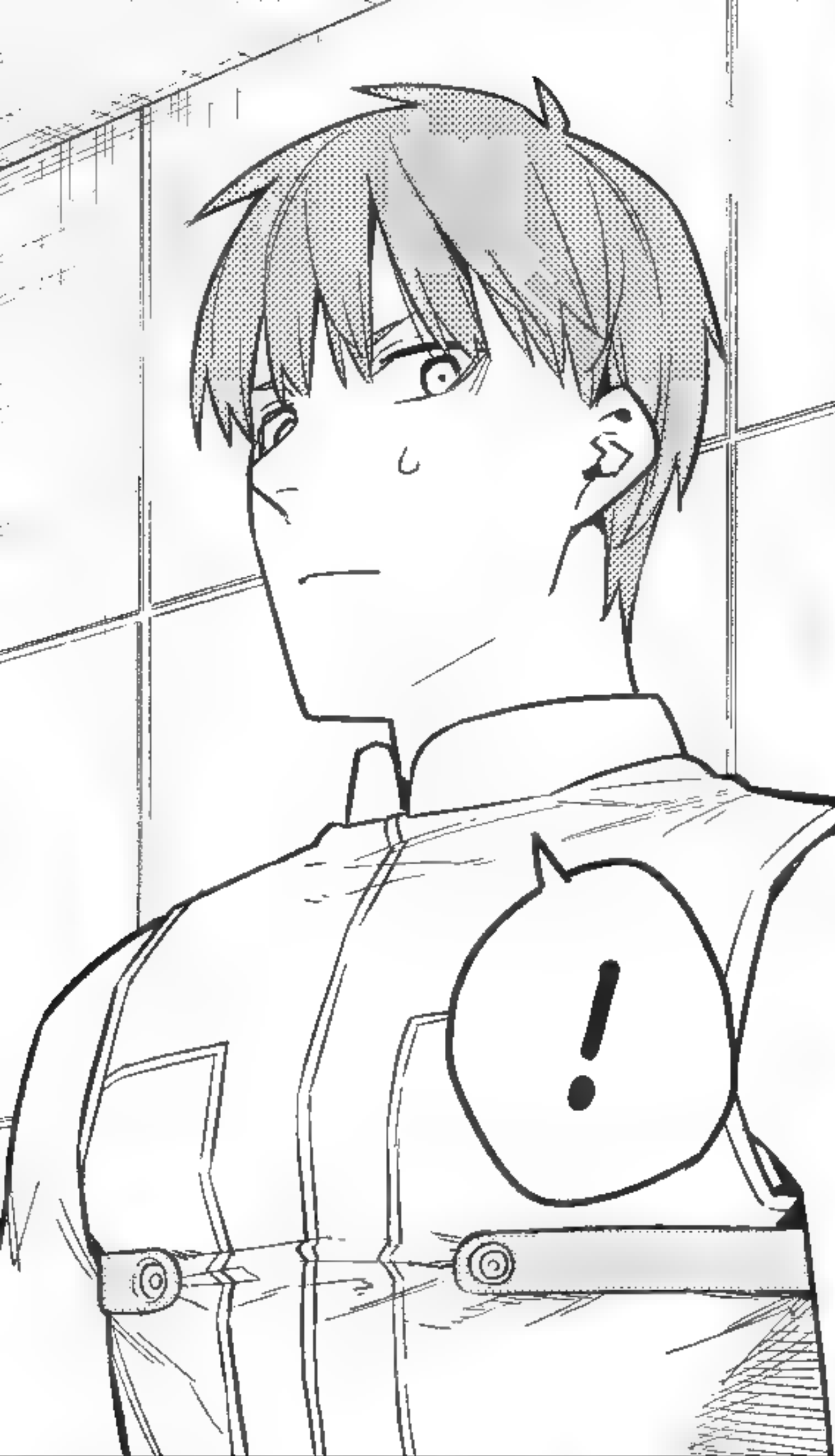
MAYBE TO
A COWARD
LIKE YOU.



I'D DECIDED
THAT I'D BE
THE FIRST ONE
TO TAKE DOWN
A MONSTER!

DAMMIT!

!



I'M GLAD
YOU'RE
ALRIGHT.

IF SHE KNEW
ABOUT WHAT
SAKURAMA
REALLY DID...

SO SHE'S
CAPABLE OF
EXPRESSIONS
LIKE THIS.

IT DOESN'T
SEEM LIKE
SHE'S SEEN
THROUGH MY
DISGUISE.

I PROMISE
YOU I'M EARNING
MYSELF A COLOR!
JUST YOU WAIT!

I'M NOT
SCARED OF ANY
MONSTERS!





W-WELL,
THAT'S NOT
THE ONLY JOB
THE RANGER
FORCE HAS...



THEN WE CAN
BEAT THE CRAP
OUT OF THOSE
LAME-ASS
MONSTERS
TOGETHER!



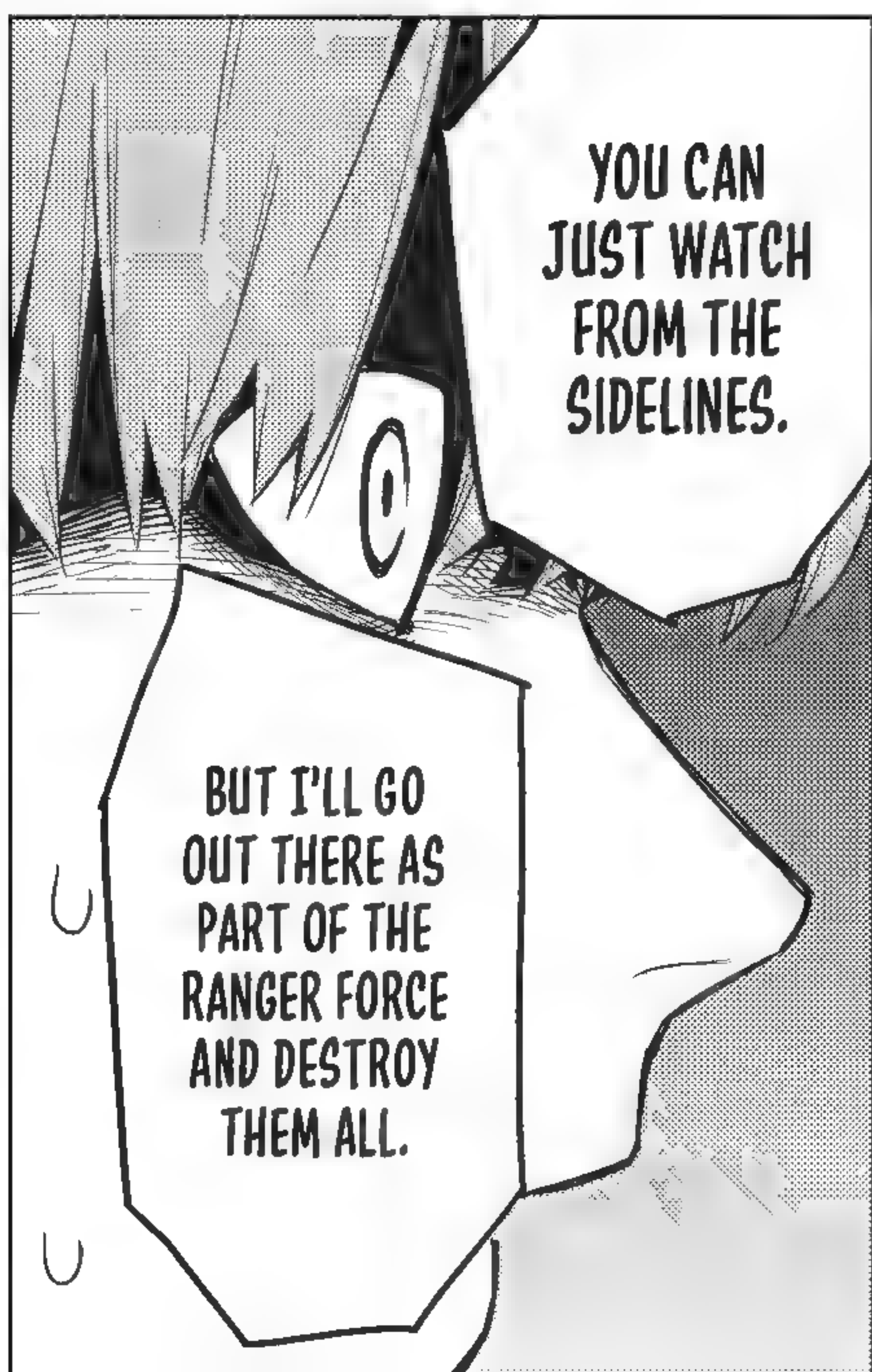
WELL,
IT DOES ACT
AS A TOURIST
DESTINATION
AS WELL...



IT EVEN
MESSES
WITH THE
SUNLIGHT WE
DESERVE!

BUT I CAN'T
STAND THAT
BIG, STUPID
FORTRESS
LINGERING
OVER OUR
HEADS.

YOU KNOW,
THE PUBLIC
MIGHT'VE
GOTTEN USED
TO IT BY
NOW...



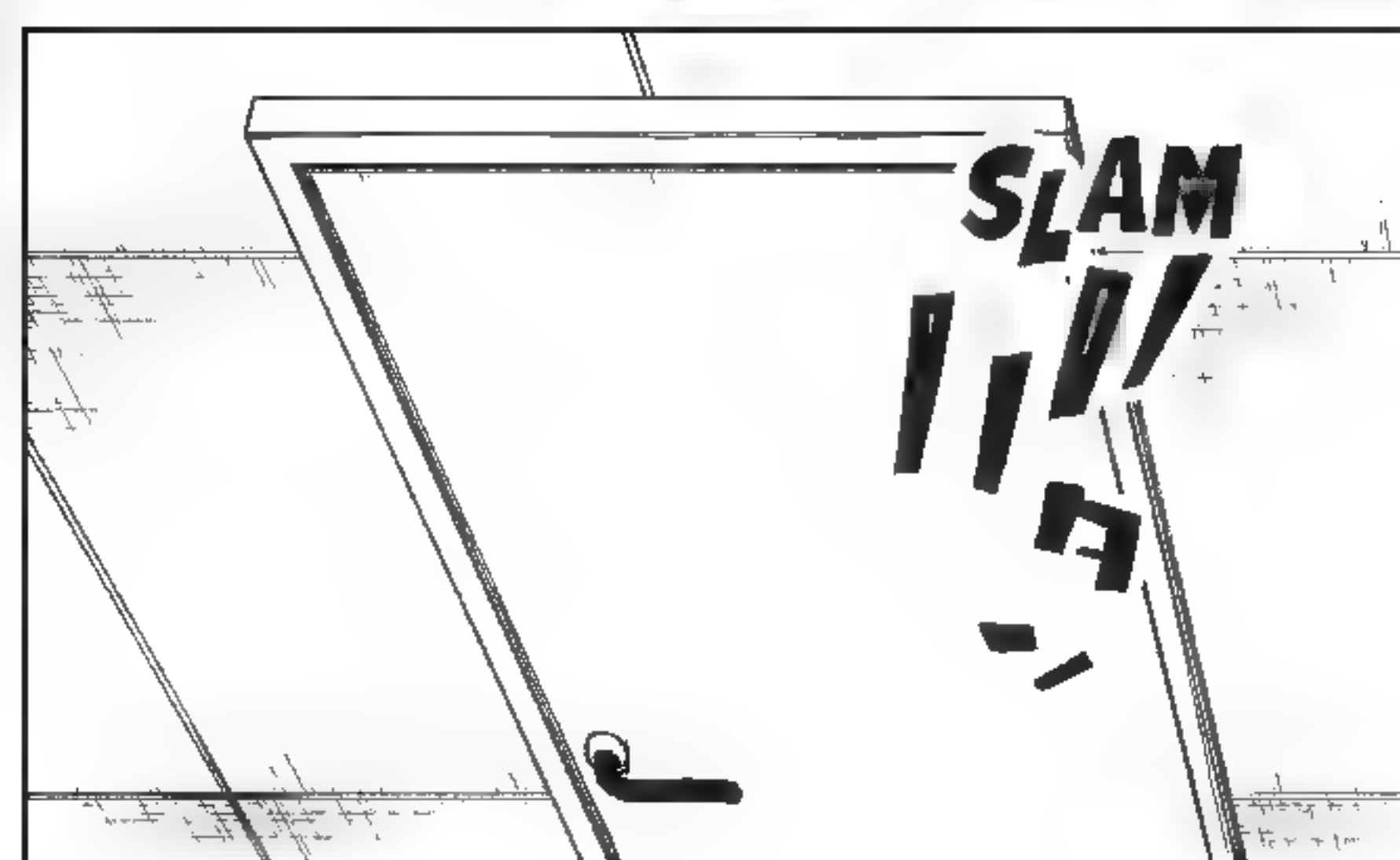
YOU CAN
JUST WATCH
FROM THE
SIDELINES.

BUT I'LL GO
OUT THERE AS
PART OF THE
RANGER FORCE
AND DESTROY
THEM ALL.



NO WAY!
EVEN NOW,
SOME PEOPLE
ARE STILL
SCARED OF
IT.

WE CAN'T
ALLOW THE
MONSTERS
TO KEEP ON
EXISTING.





ARE YOU
REALLY A
FIGHTER?

JUST HOW
LONG ARE
YOU GONNA
MAKE NICE
WITH THEM?

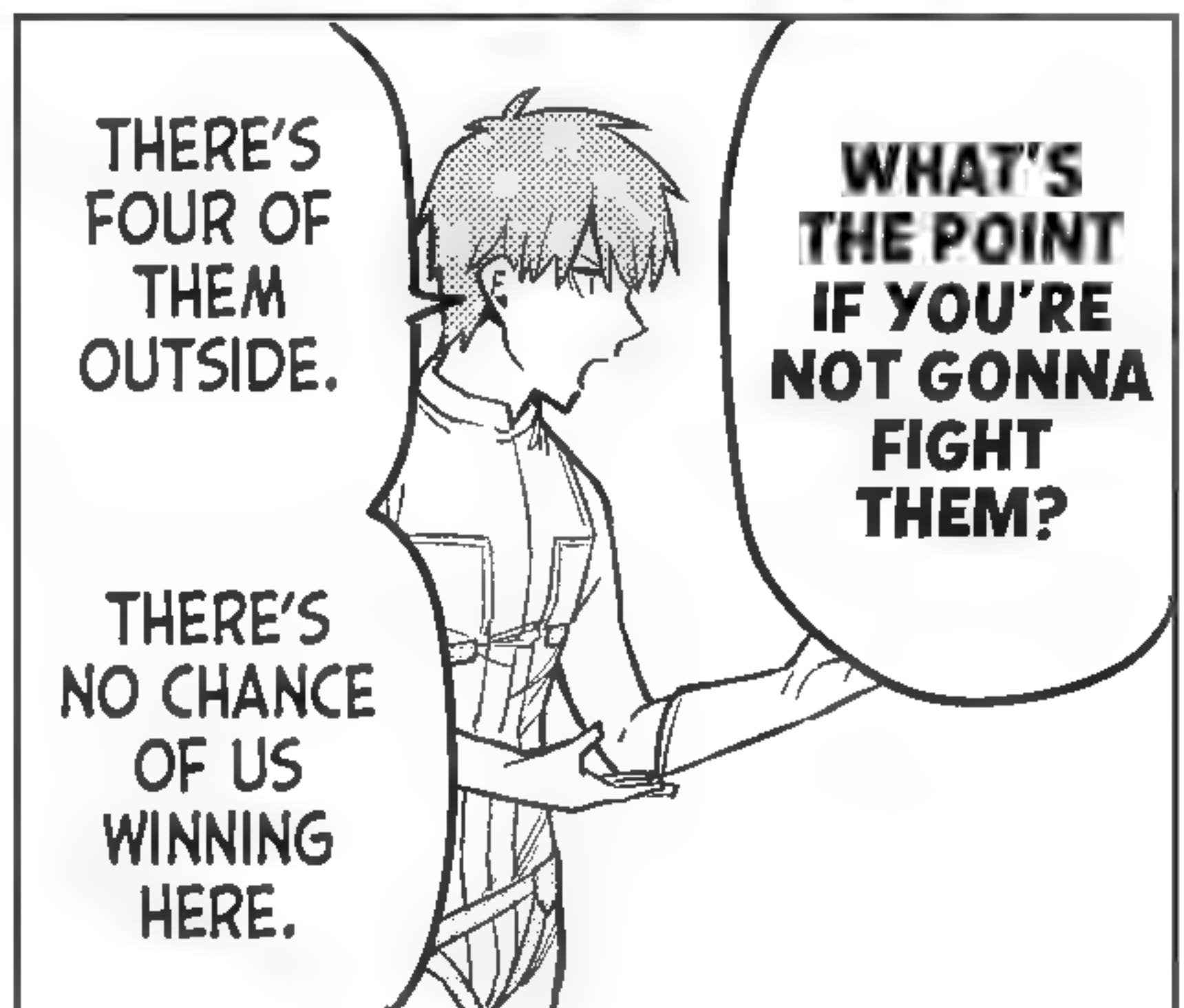


YOU
JUST GOT
HERE...?



I JUST GOT TO
THE SURFACE
MYSELF. I BARELY
KNOW WHAT'S
GOING ON HERE.

JUST USE
YOUR HEAD
EVERY ONCE
IN A WHILE.



THERE'S
FOUR OF
THEM
OUTSIDE.

THERE'S
NO CHANCE
OF US
WINNING
HERE.

WHAT'S
THE POINT
IF YOU'RE
NOT GONNA
FIGHT
THEM?

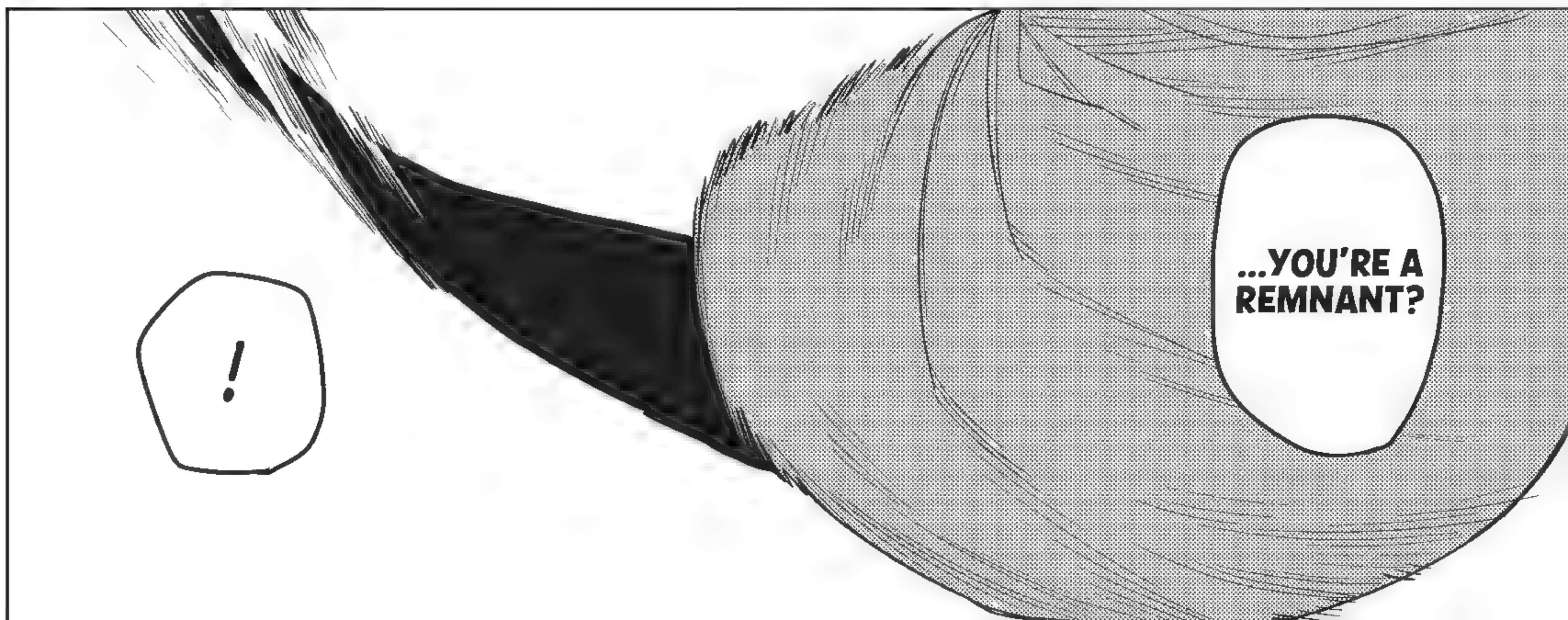


...YOU...



I COULD
SEE THIS
WORKING
IF I WORK
WITH THIS
FIGHTER.

COMING
ACROSS HER
IS A LONE
GLIMMER
OF HOPE,
THOUGH.



...YOU'RE A
REMNANT?

!



WAIT, ARE
YOU...

WHAT'RE
YOU...
DOING...?

WH...

AREN'T
WE...
ALLIES?

ZHWAP

THAT IS MY
PRIDE AS A
FIGHTER.

SORRY, BUT
FIGHTING IS
ALL I KNOW.

THIS IS NO
TIME FOR
US TO BE
FIGHTING...

PLEASE,
JUST CALM
DOWN.

ALLIES?
REALLY?

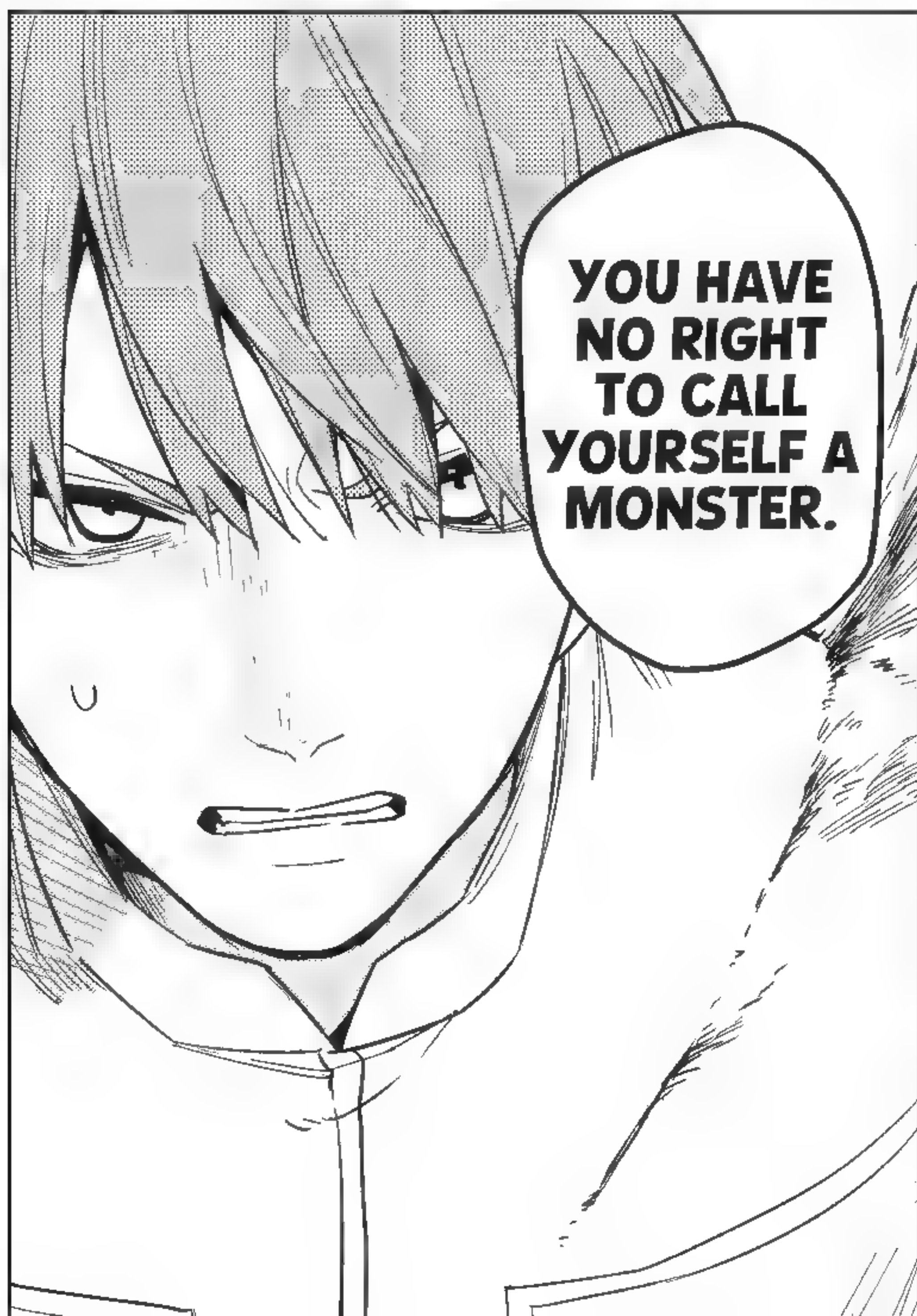
HOW
DARE YOU
USE THAT
WORD.



**WE'RE
THE TRUE
FIGHTERS.**

**THAT IS WHY
WE'VE ALWAYS
ADVOCATED
FOR ALL-OUT
RESISTANCE...**

**...EVEN
AFTER OUR
BOSSSES WERE
DEFEATED BY
THE DRAGON
KEEPERS.**



**YOU HAVE
NO RIGHT
TO CALL
YOURSELF A
MONSTER.**

**YOU BUNCH
OF CLOWNS,
REDUCED
TO MERE
PAWNS OF
THE RANGER
FORCE.**

**WHO WOULD
EVER LISTEN
TO YOU?**

**I BET YOU
REMNANTS
THOUGHT
THAT.**

**DID YOU
THINK WE'D
ALL DIED?**





GO! GO!
LOSER RANGER!



Chapter 16: **THE PINK SIBLINGS**



NOW I
UNDERSTAND
WHY YOU'RE
SO DESPERATE
NOT TO FIGHT.

THIS IS NO
TIME FOR TWO
FIGHTERS TO
BE FACING OFF
AGAINST EACH
OTHER.

HEY...
THERE ARE
RANGERS
RIGHT OUT-
SIDE, YOU
KNOW.



WE RESISTED
THE DRAGON
KEEPERS
UNTIL THE
VERY END...

...AND
I WAS
THE LONE
SURVIVOR.

THAT'S
HOW
YOU'VE
BEEN FOR
THIRTEEN
YEARS.

YOU'VE
NEVER
ONCE
FOUGHT.



...WHAT-
EVER MAKES
YOU SUCH A
WEAKLING.

I DON'T
WANNA
CATCH...

DON'T
TALK
TO ME,
LOSER.



SHUT
UP.



YOU
NEED
TO GIVE
THIS A
LITTLE
MORE
THOUGHT!

HOLD
ON!



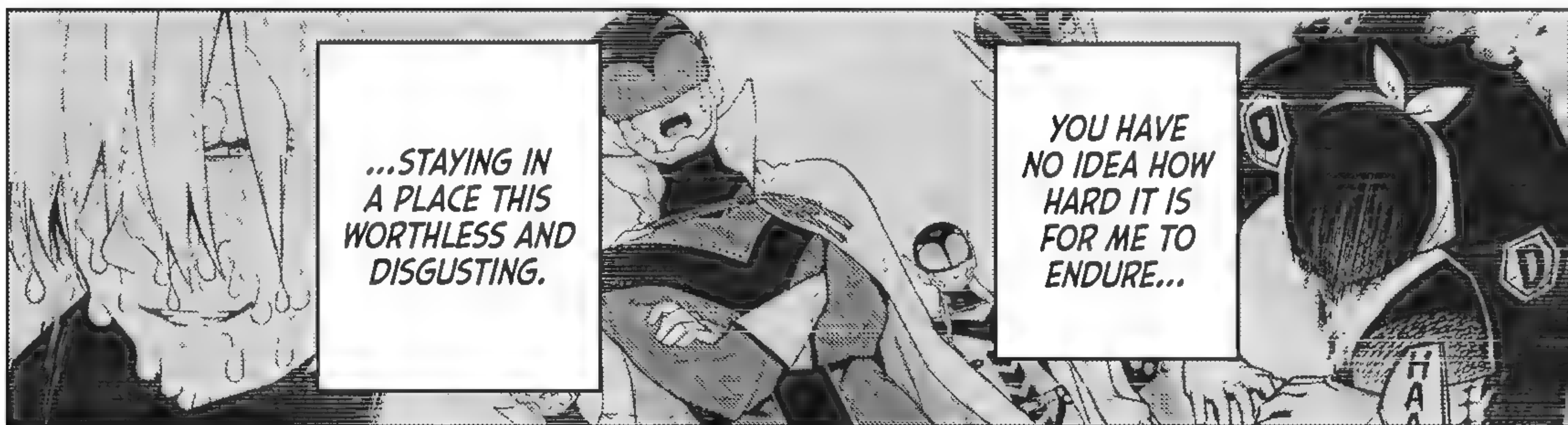
YOUR BODY
AND MIND BOTH
BELONG TO THE
RANGER FORCE
NOW.

WE'RE NO
LONGER
COMRADES,
YOU
TRAITOR.



RUN YOUR MOUTH.

FINE. GO AHEAD...



...STAYING IN A PLACE THIS WORTHLESS AND DISGUSTING.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW HARD IT IS FOR ME TO ENDURE...



LET'S RUN WILD.



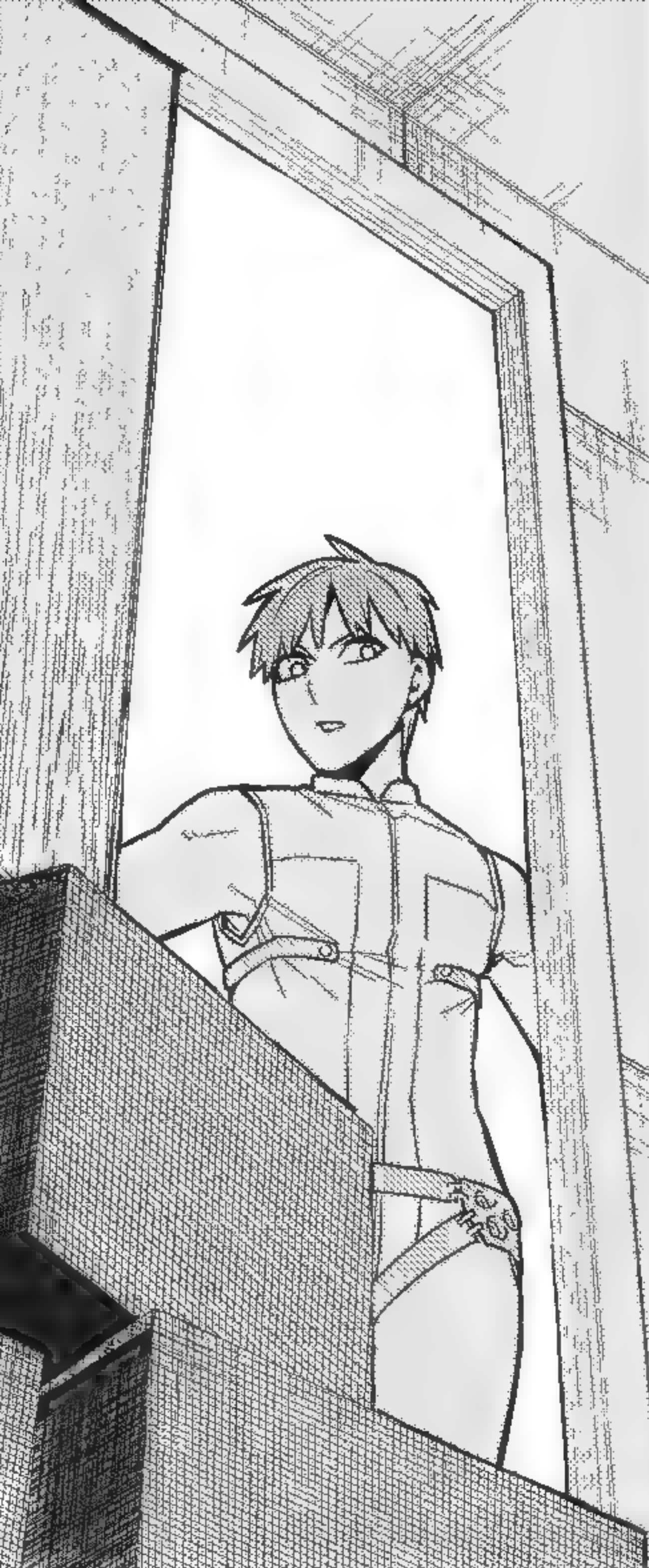
YOU'RE RIGHT, THIS ISN'T HOW A FIGHTER SHOULD ACT.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT GOT INTO ME.



I WAS WRONG.

!



THERE'S
NO HARM IN
DISGUIISING
YOURSELF IF
YOU WANT TO
TAKE THEM BY
SURPRISE.

BUT YOU
CAN'T GO
OUT THERE
LOOKING
LIKE THAT.

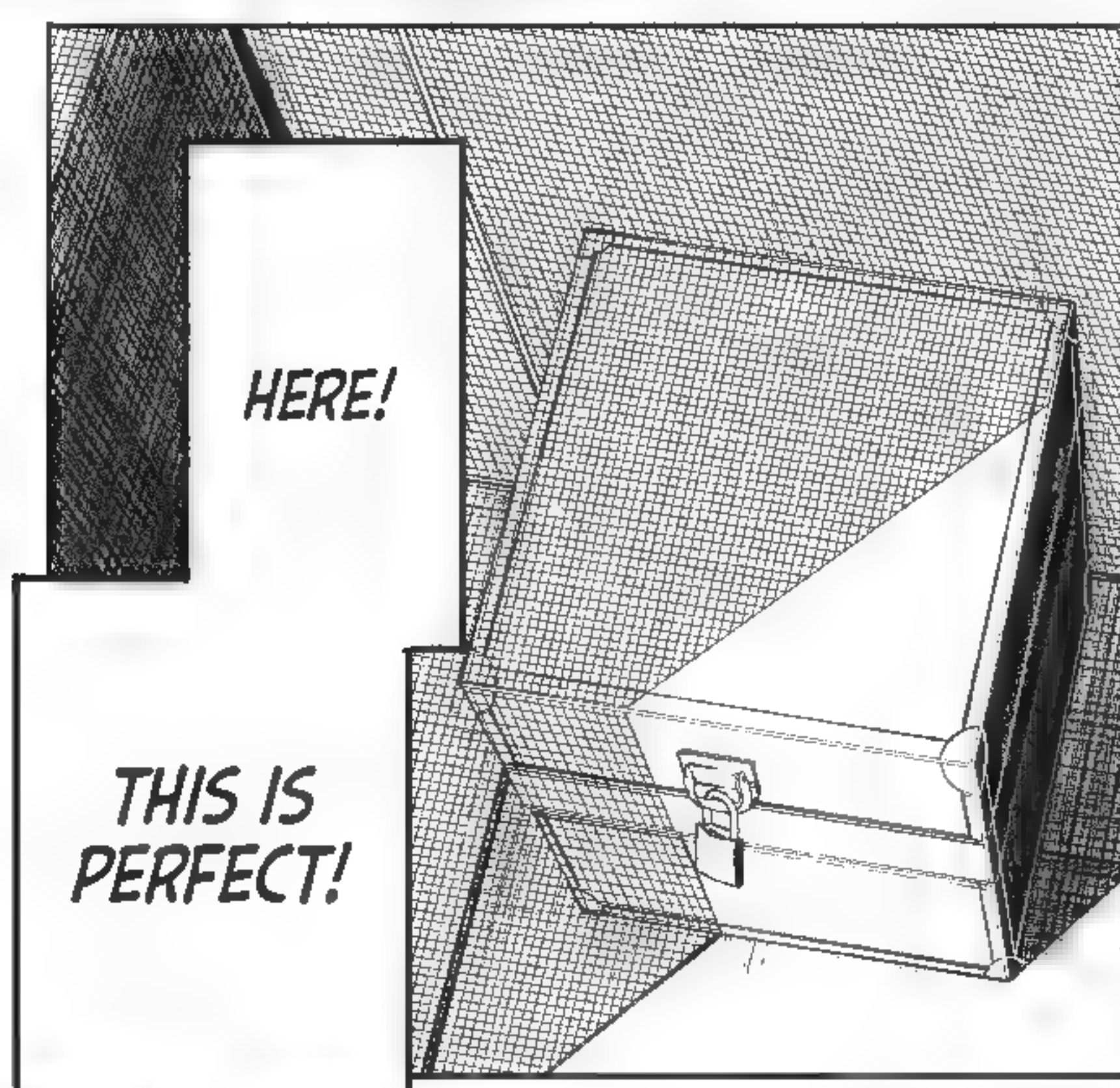
...
THAT'S
AWFULLY
UNDER-
STANDING
OF YOU.



OKAY,
I'LL WAIT.

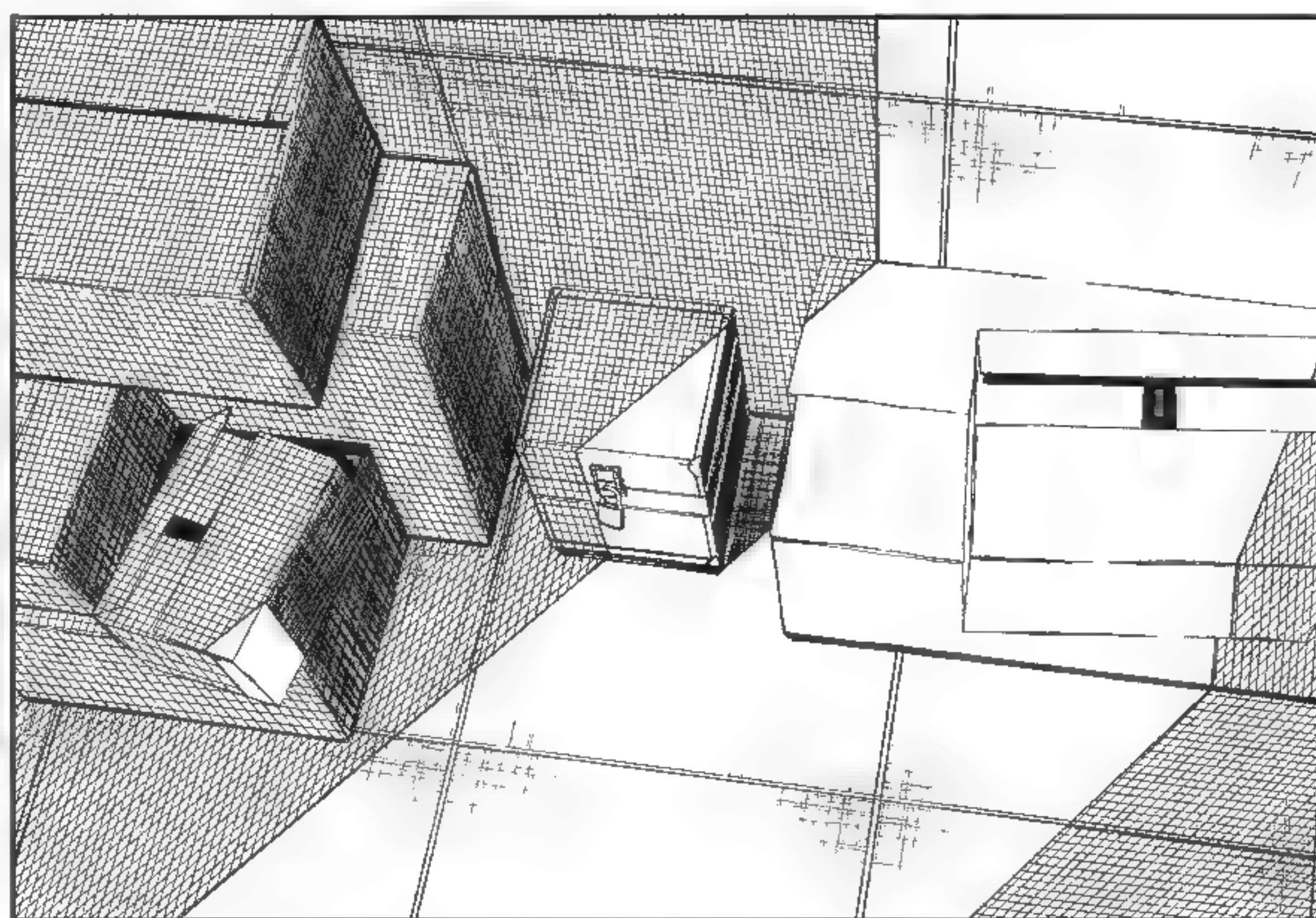
IT'LL
TAKE
TIME.

I'M NOT
GOOD AT
MIMICKING
SURFACE-
DWELLERS.



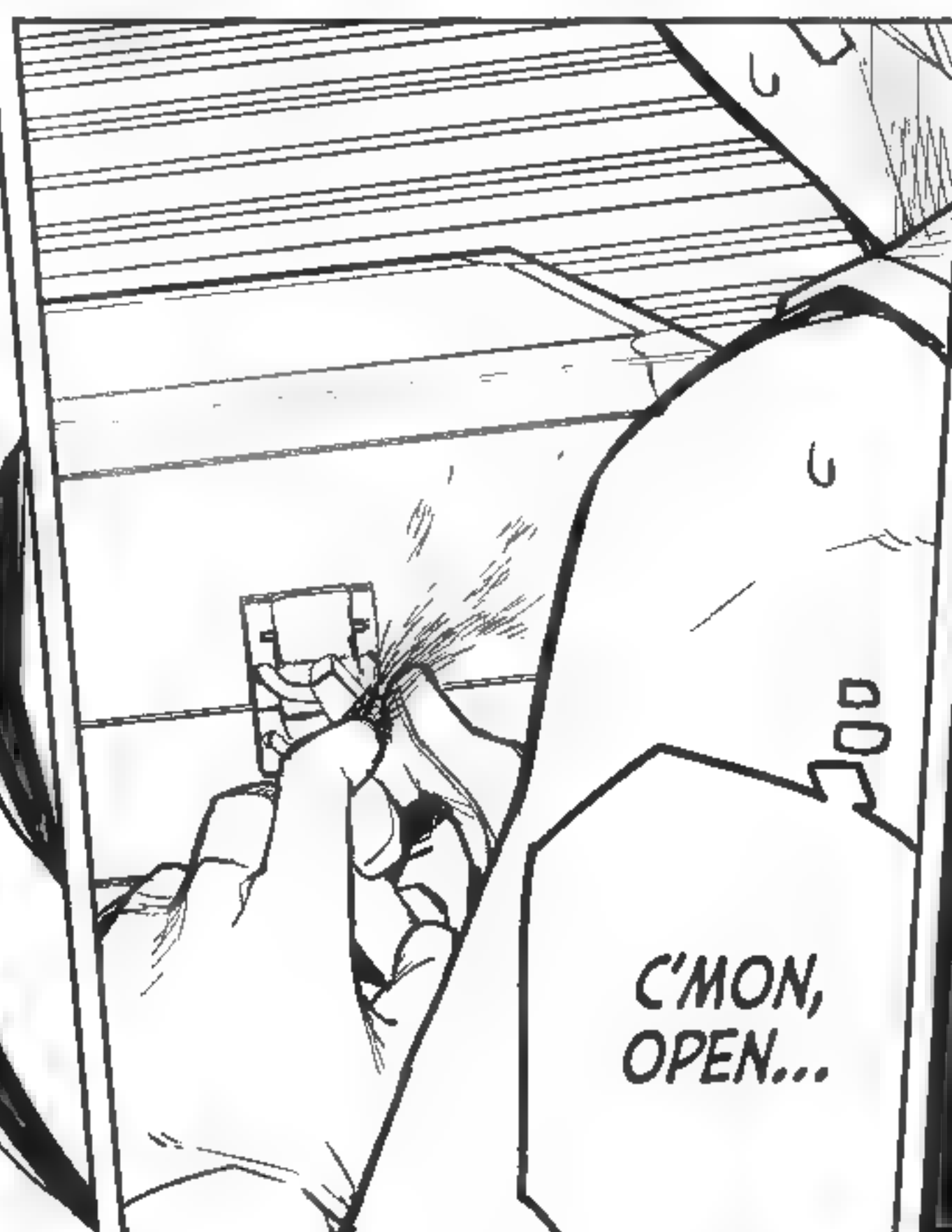
HERE!

THIS IS
PERFECT!



...OKAY.

TIME TO
SLAUGHTER
THEM.



C'MON,
OPEN...





I KNOW IT MUST BE A LITTLE CRAMPED...





...DAMNED...
TRAITOR!

YOU...

I DOUBT YOU'D
BE ABLE TO DO
ANYTHING ELSE,
SEVERED FROM
YOUR BODY LIKE
THAT.

...OF
COURSE...



CRAP!

THMP
カ
カ
カ



KA-CHAK
カ
カ
カ



NOW I JUST
HAVE TO
TAKE CARE
OF THAT
ANNOYING
SISTER...



GUESS I
STUFFED
TOO MUCH
INSIDE.

HEH
HEH...

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO THAT
DOOR?

EVERYONE
LEFT.

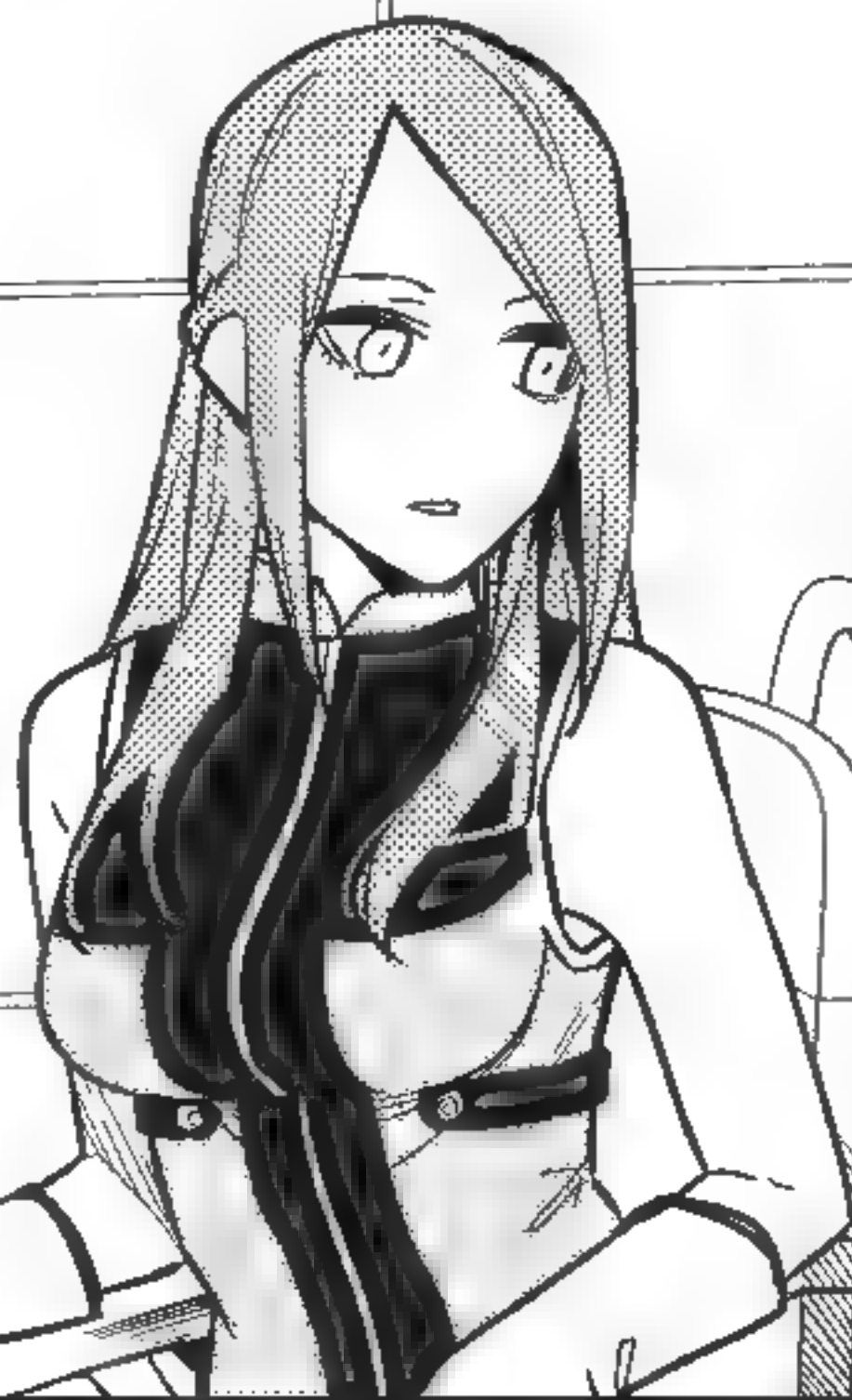
...OH.



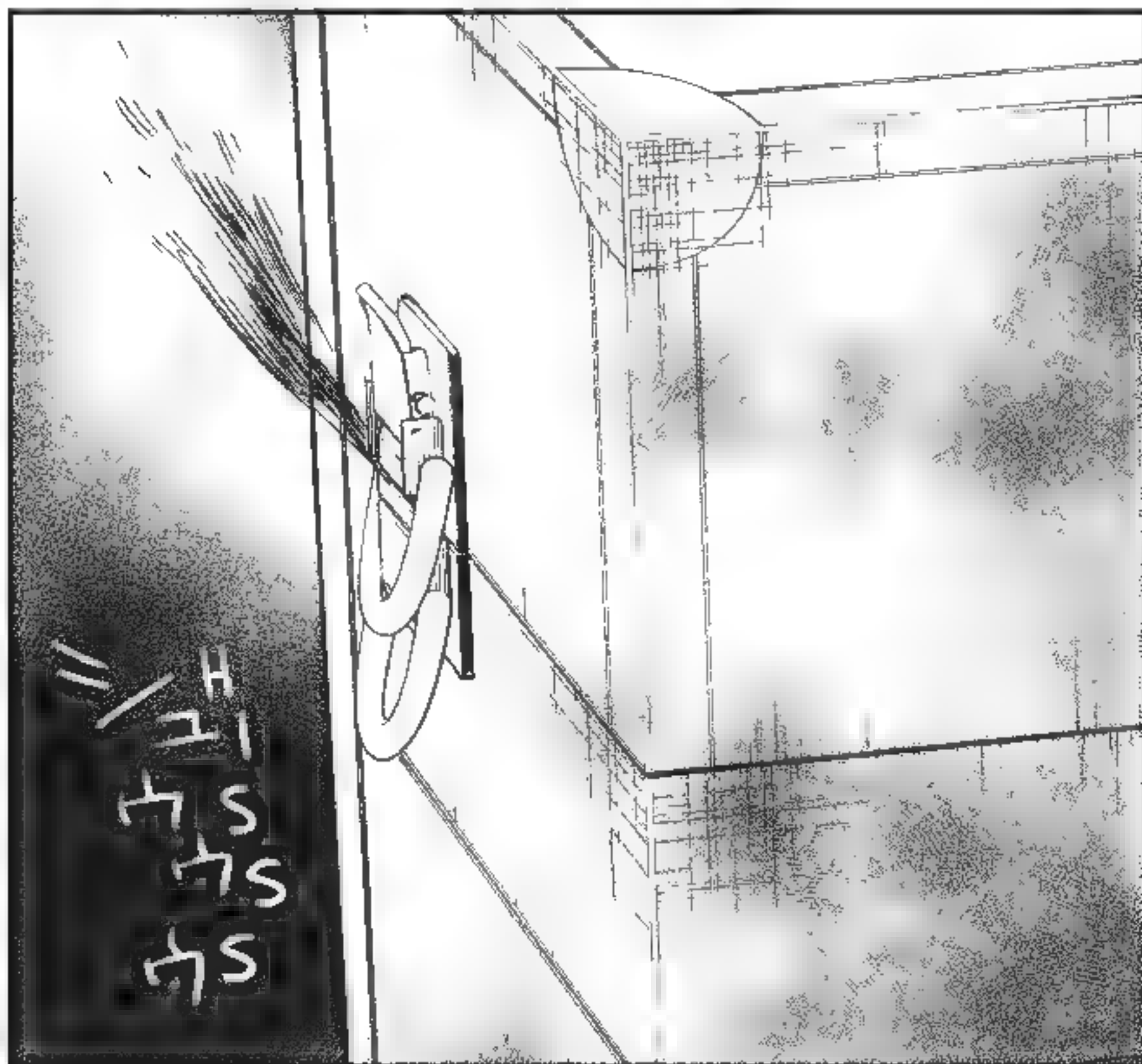
YOU
WANTED
TO TALK
TO ME,
RIGHT?



I-I
CAN DO IT
LATER!



SHOULD I CALL
SOMEONE ON
THE MAINTENANCE
TEAM?



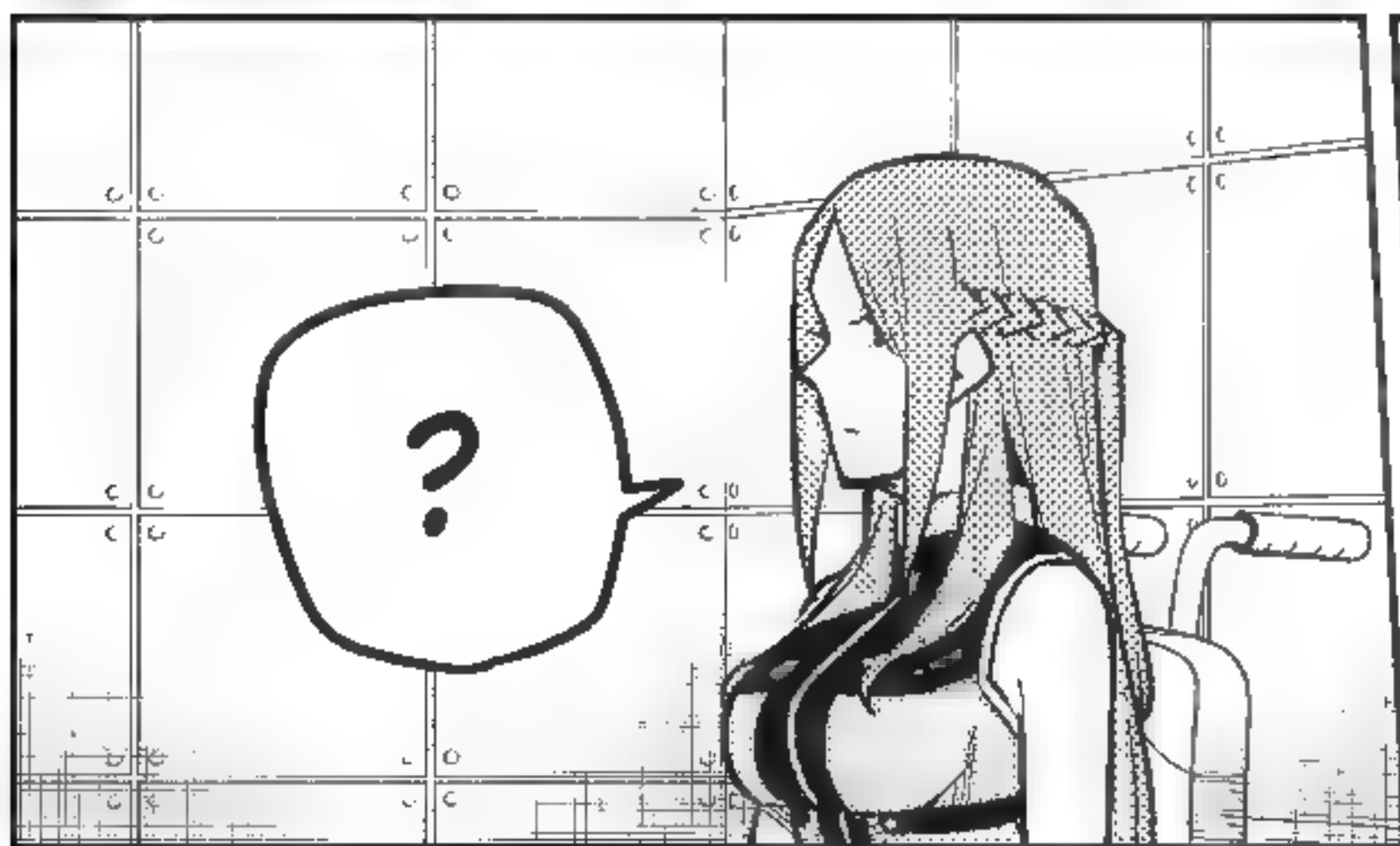
WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

HOW
ABOUT
QUITTING
THE RANGER
FORCE AND
LIVING A
NORMAL
LIFE?



YOU'RE
RIGHT.

I SHOULD
ASK YOU
BEFORE WE'RE
DISTRACTED
AGAIN.



?

I'LL
JUST GIVE
A VAGUE
ANSWER
AND GET
HER TO
LEAVE.

I CAN'T
TAKE MY
TIME AND
CHAT WITH
HER HERE.



OKAY.

I'LL
THINK
ABOUT
IT.

OH,
SORRY!

QUIT THE
RANGER
FORCE,
HUH...?

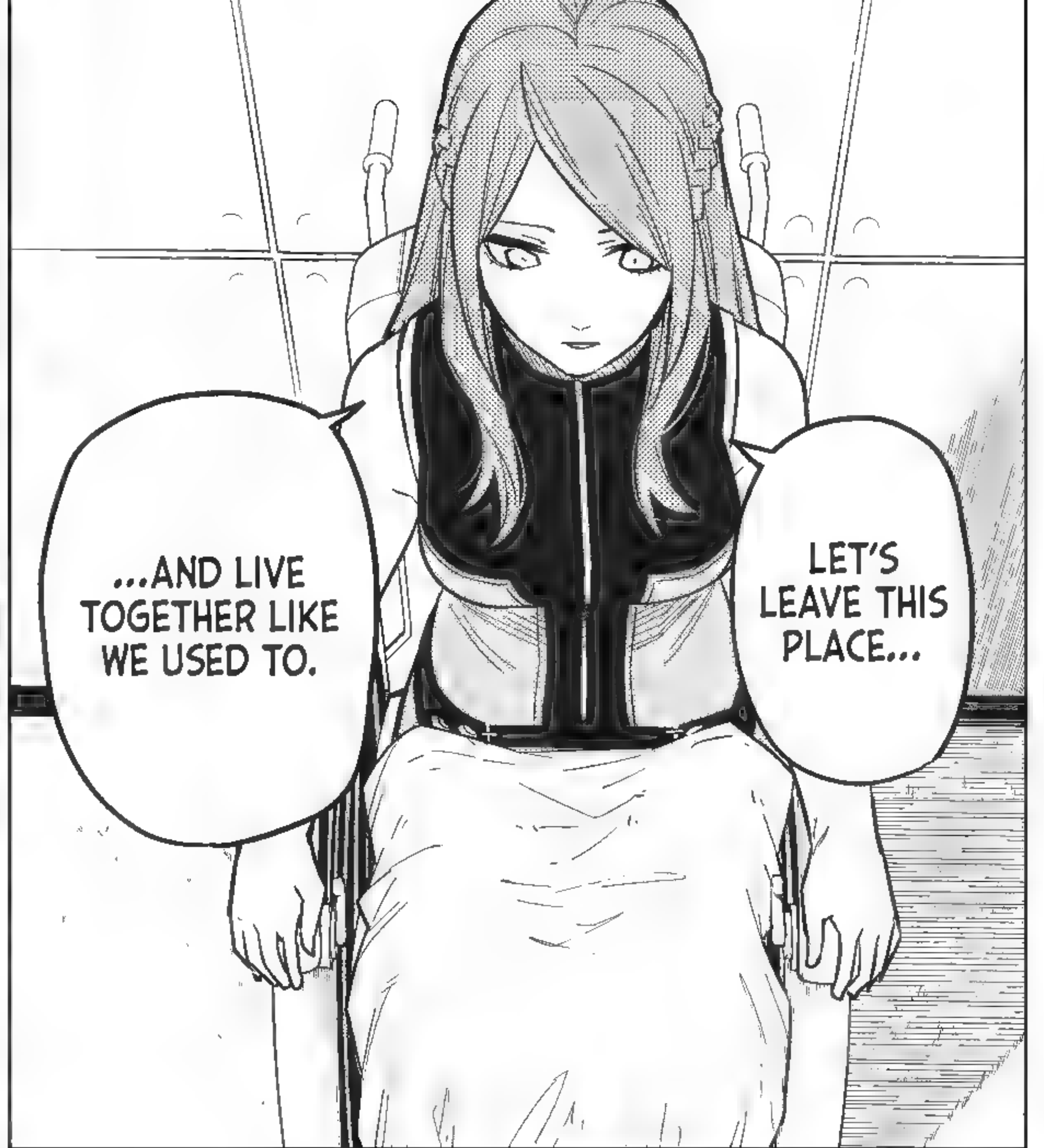


BAM

!!

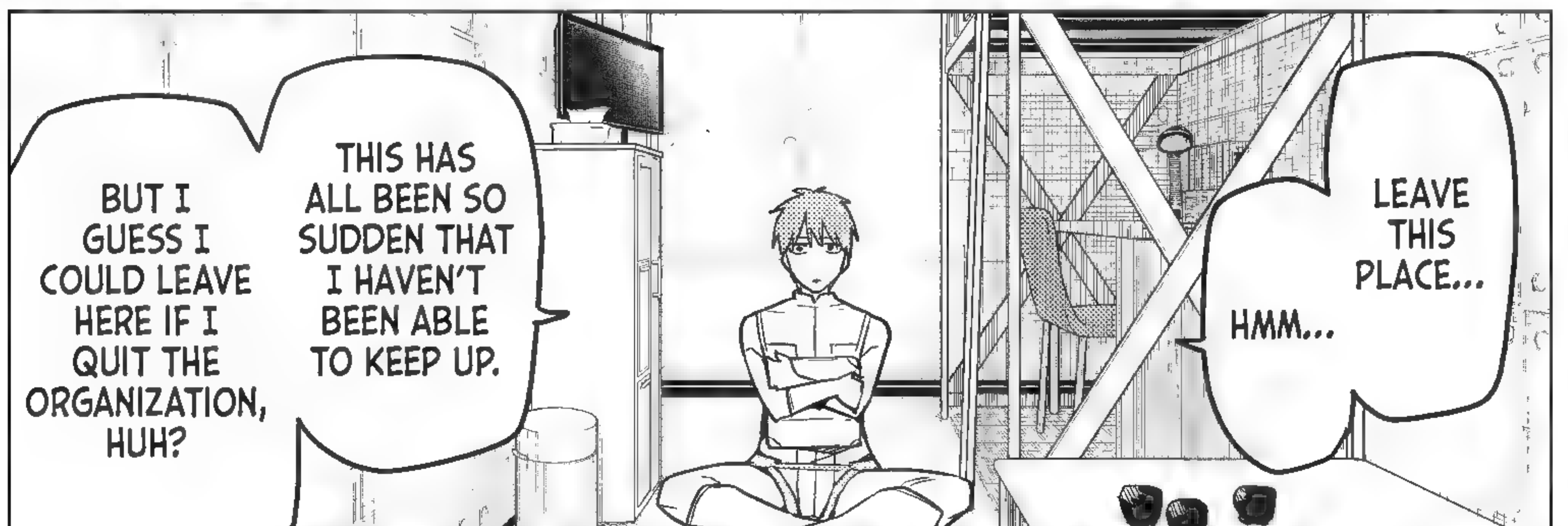


**STAYING IN
THE RANGER
FORCE JUST
PUTS YOU
AT RISK.**



**...AND LIVE
TOGETHER LIKE
WE USED TO.**

**LET'S
LEAVE THIS
PLACE...**



**BUT I
GUESS I
COULD LEAVE
HERE IF I
QUIT THE
ORGANIZATION,
HUH?**

**THIS HAS
ALL BEEN SO
SUDDEN THAT
I HAVEN'T
BEEN ABLE
TO KEEP UP.**

HMM...

**LEAVE
THIS
PLACE...**



**ARE YOU
GOING TO
RUN FROM
YET ANOTHER
BATTLE?!**

**YOU
COWARD...!**

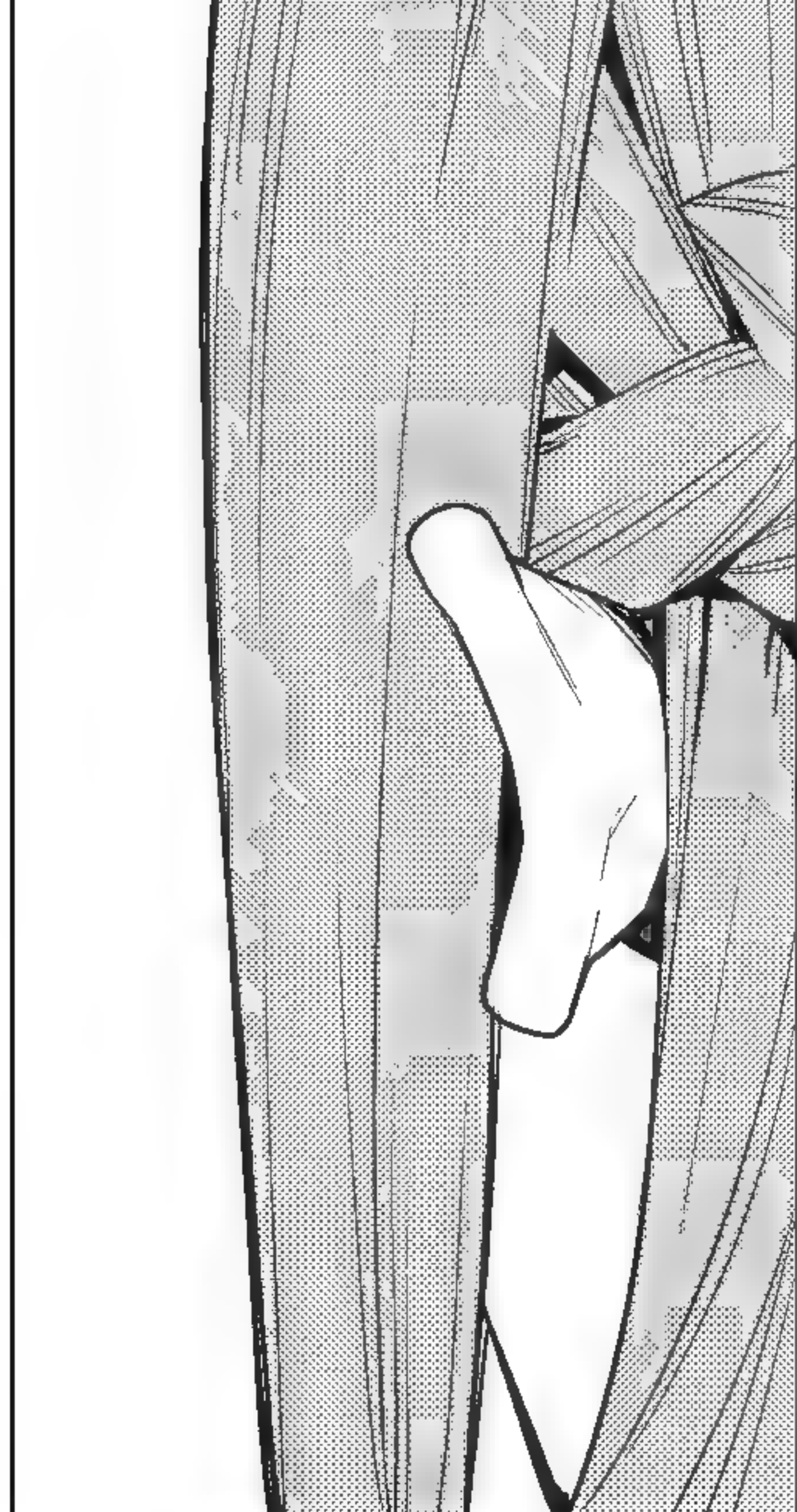


**YOU MUST
FEEL THE
SAME WAY,
RIGHT?**

**THERE'S
NOTHING TO
BE SCARED
OF NOW.**

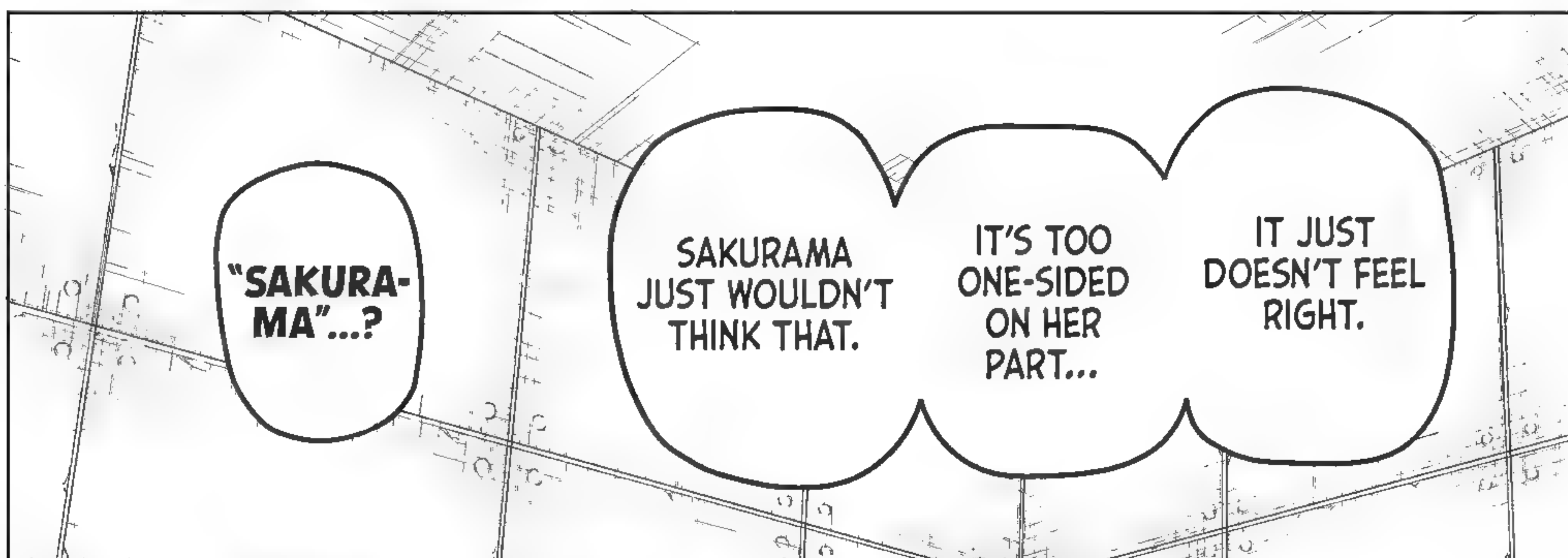
**YOU'LL BE
SAFE AS
LONG AS
YOU'RE BY
MY SIDE.**





THAT
DOESN'T
WORK...

NO...



"SAKURA-
MA"...?

SAKURAMA
JUST WOULDN'T
THINK THAT.

IT'S TOO
ONE-SIDED
ON HER
PART...

IT JUST
DOESN'T FEEL
RIGHT.

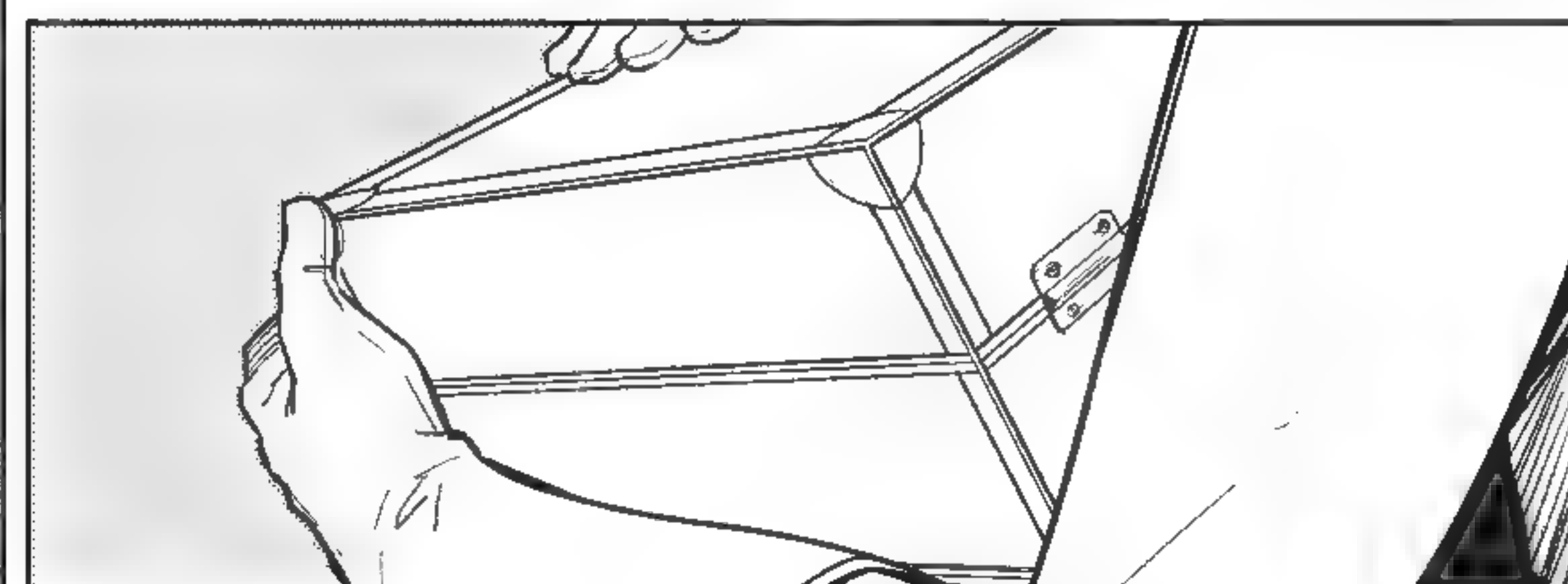


I CAME
HERE TO
FIGHT.



THAT
DOESN'T
SEEM LIKE
A VALID
REASON
FOR HIM
TO QUIT...

HE
WOULD'VE
KNOWN
THAT IT'S
DANGEROUS
FROM THE
START.





**I'M
SAYING
I'LL DO
THIS ON
YOUR
BEHALF.**

**YOU
NEED TO
LEARN TO
LISTEN TO
YOUR
ELDERS.**

**THIS IS ALL
FOR YOUR
SAKE.**

**...AT THE WHITE
DRAGON'S NEST
ARE FORCED
OUT OF IT.**

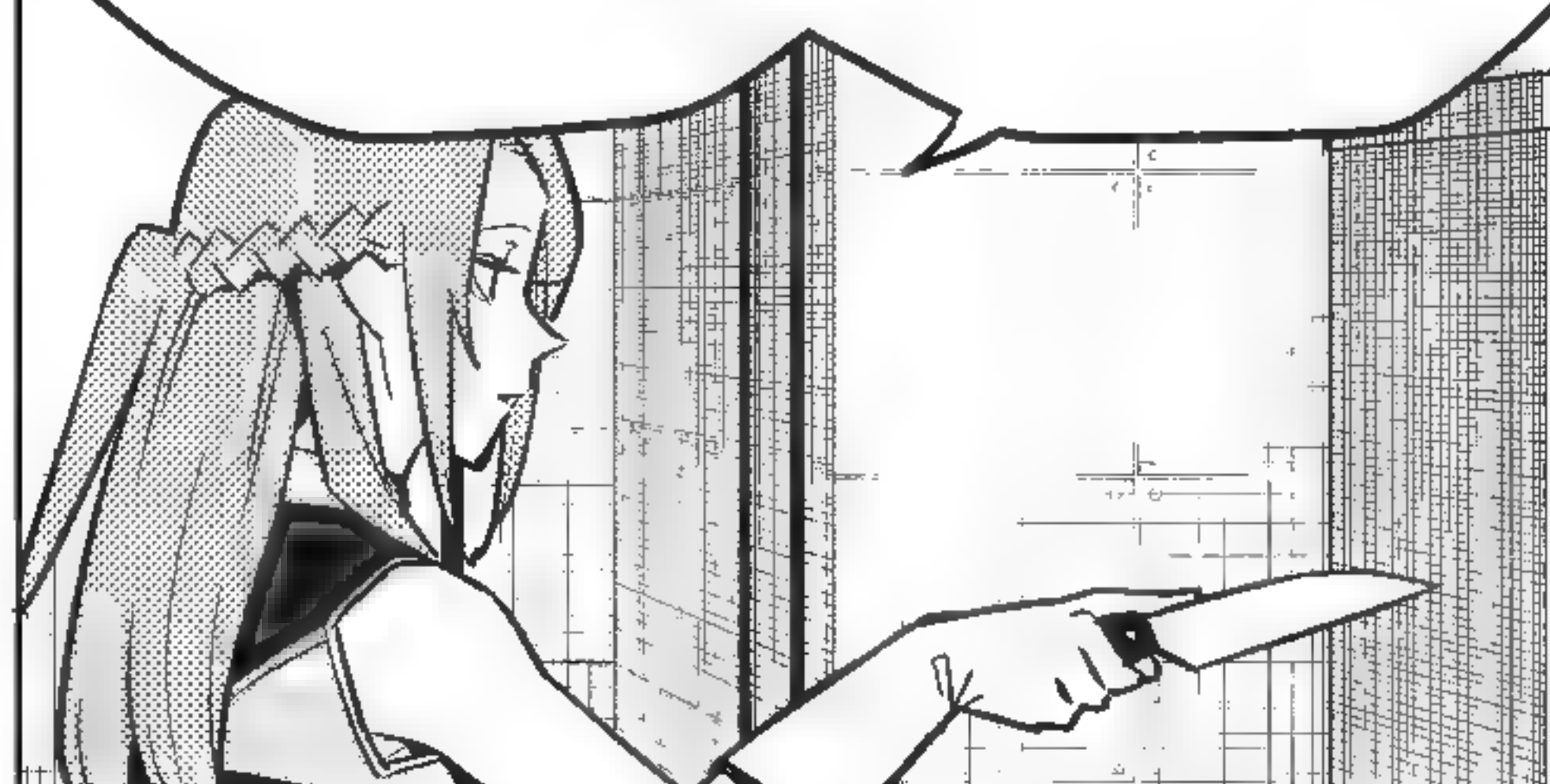
**ANY
RANGERS
UNABLE
TO TAKE
THE FINAL
EXAM...**

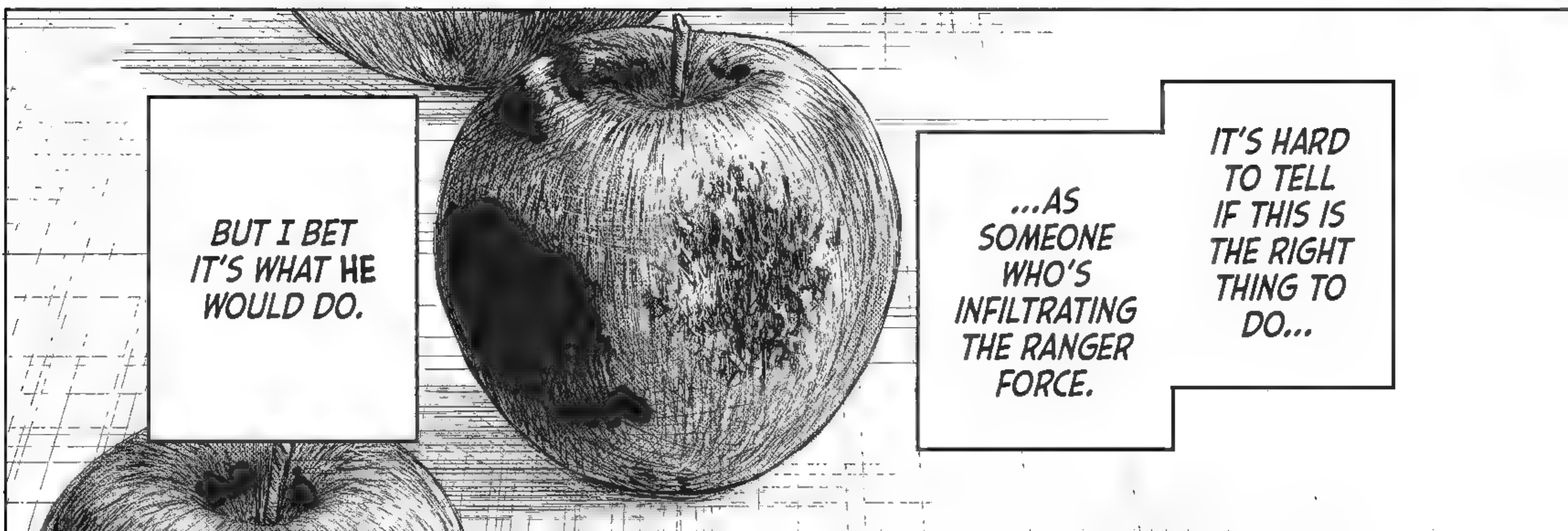
**IF YOU
WISH FOR A
TRULY JUST
WORLD...**

**...DON'T
CHOOSE
THE PATH
I CHOSE.**

**...BUT
THE RANGER
FORCE ISN'T
AS RIGHTEOUS
OF A PLACE AS
YOU DREAMED
IT WAS.**

**I DIDN'T
WANT TO
TELL YOU
THIS...**





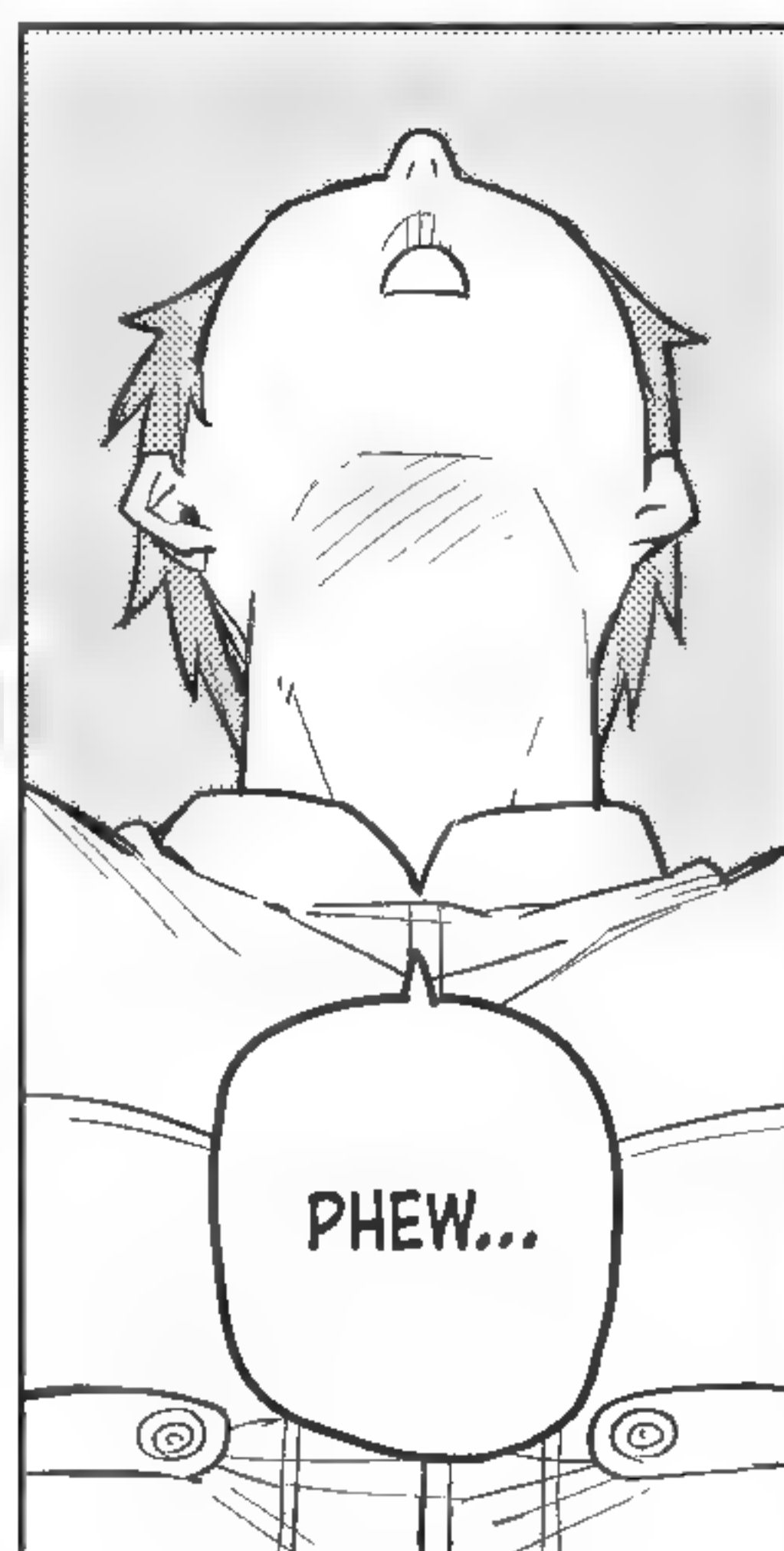
BUT I BET
IT'S WHAT HE
WOULD DO.

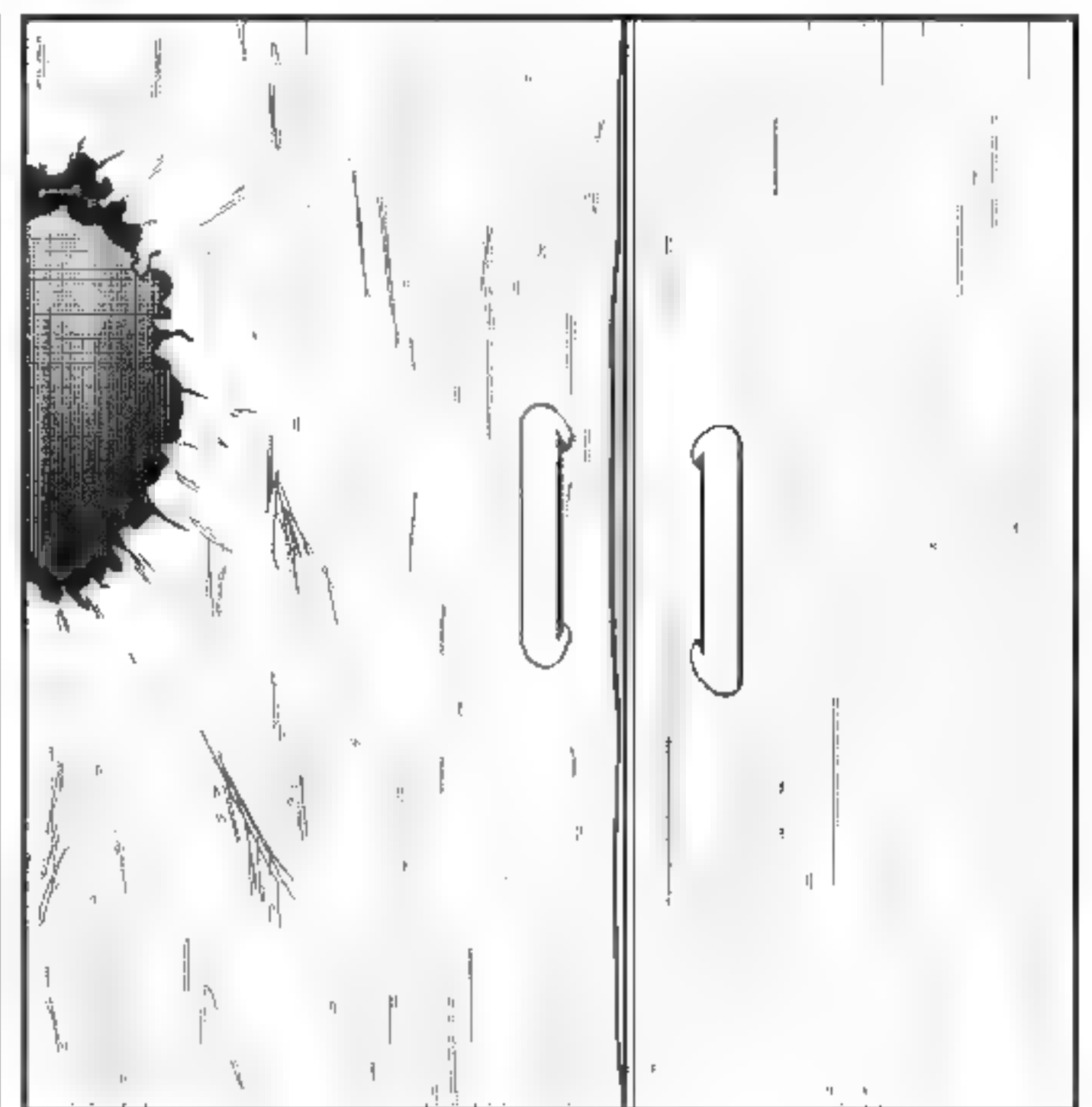
...AS
SOMEONE
WHO'S
INFILTRATING
THE RANGER
FORCE.

IT'S HARD
TO TELL
IF THIS IS
THE RIGHT
THING TO
DO...







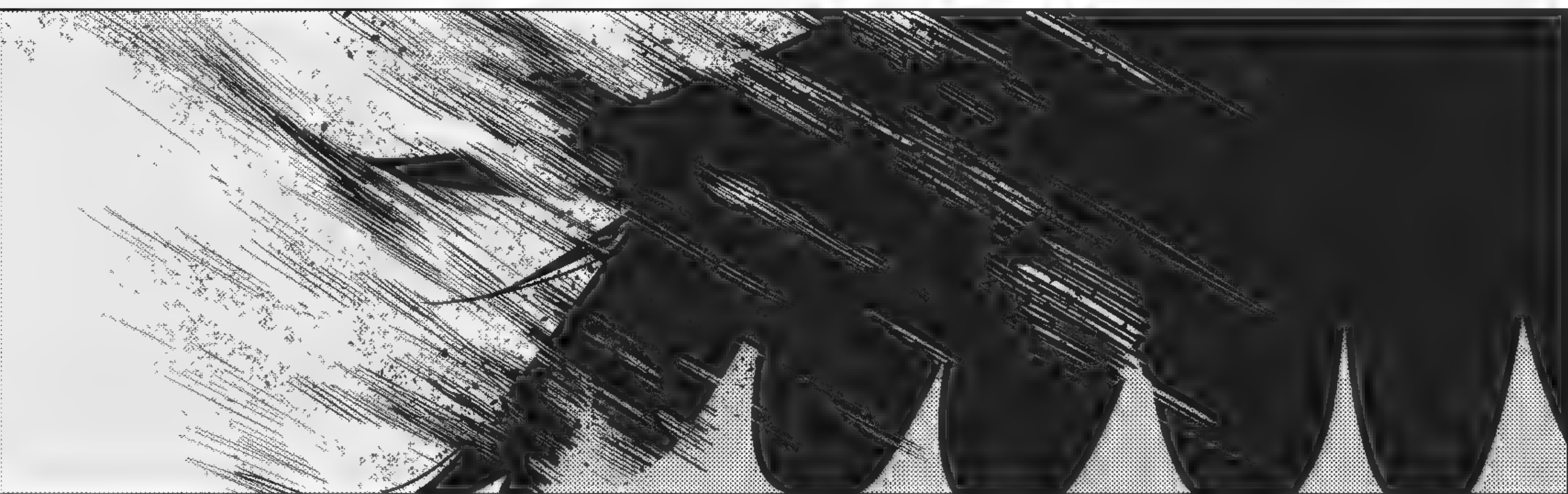




...OUR
DIGNITY.

...AND
TAKE
BACK...

THAT'S
WHY I'LL
WIN THIS
BATTLE...

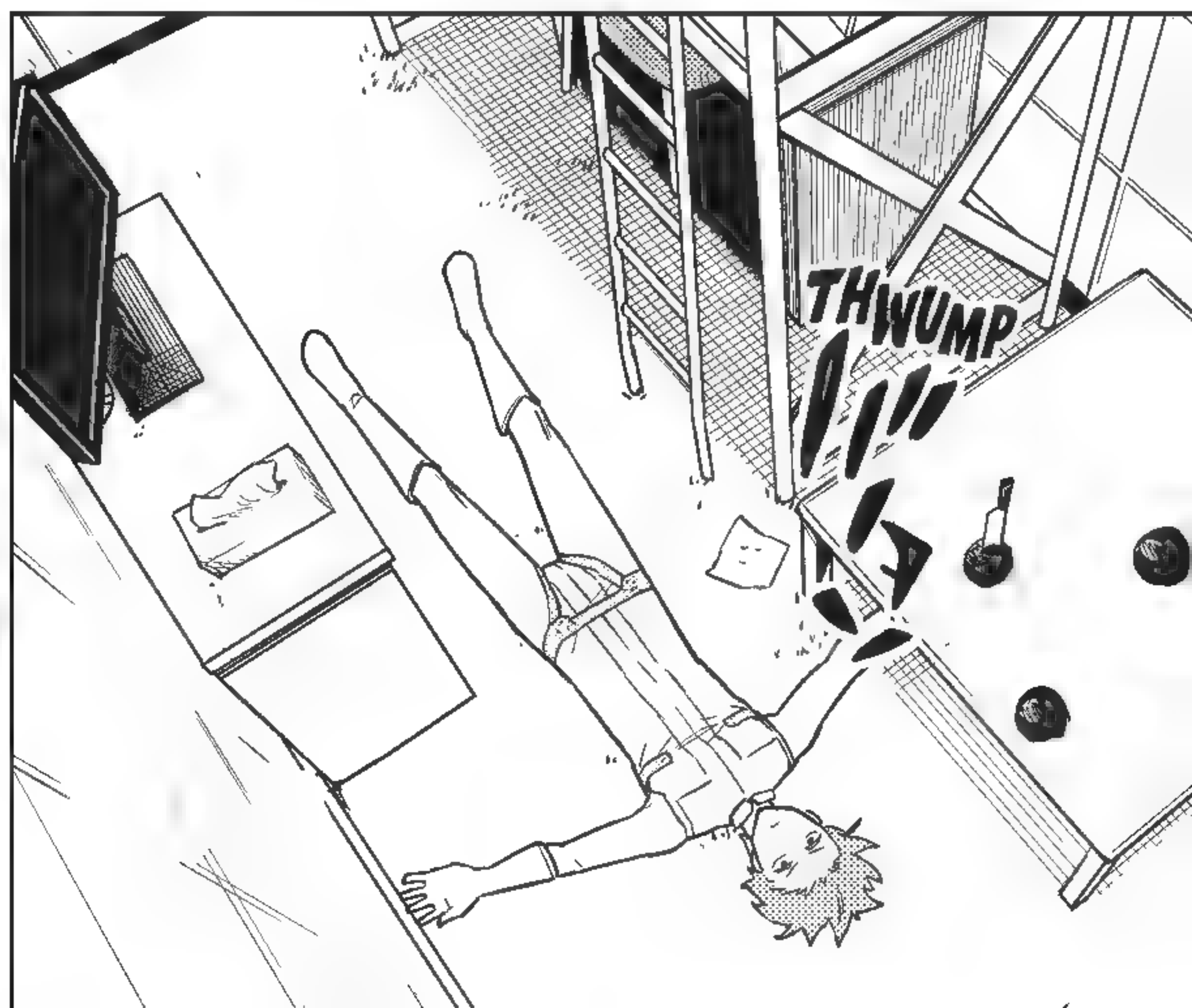
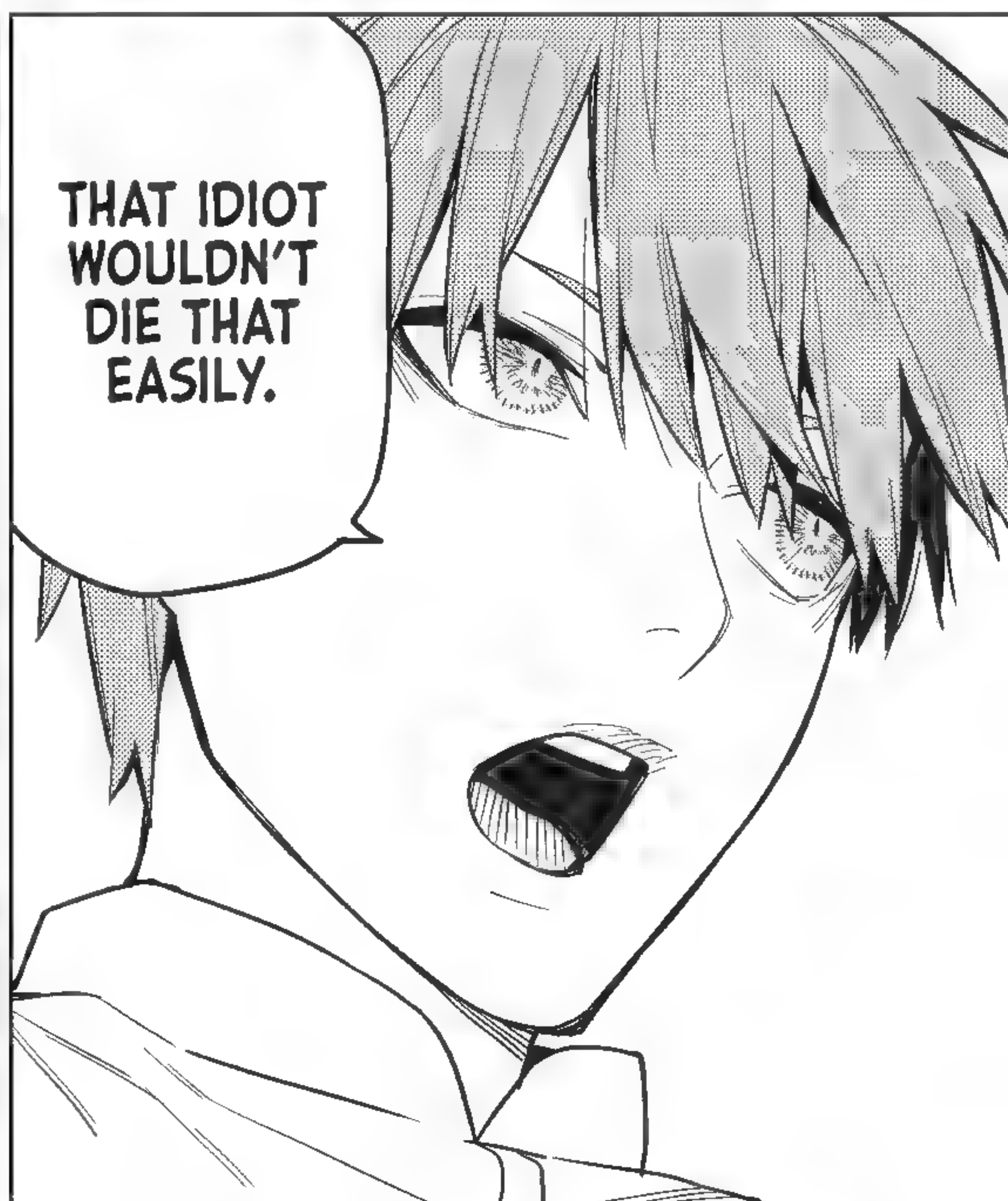
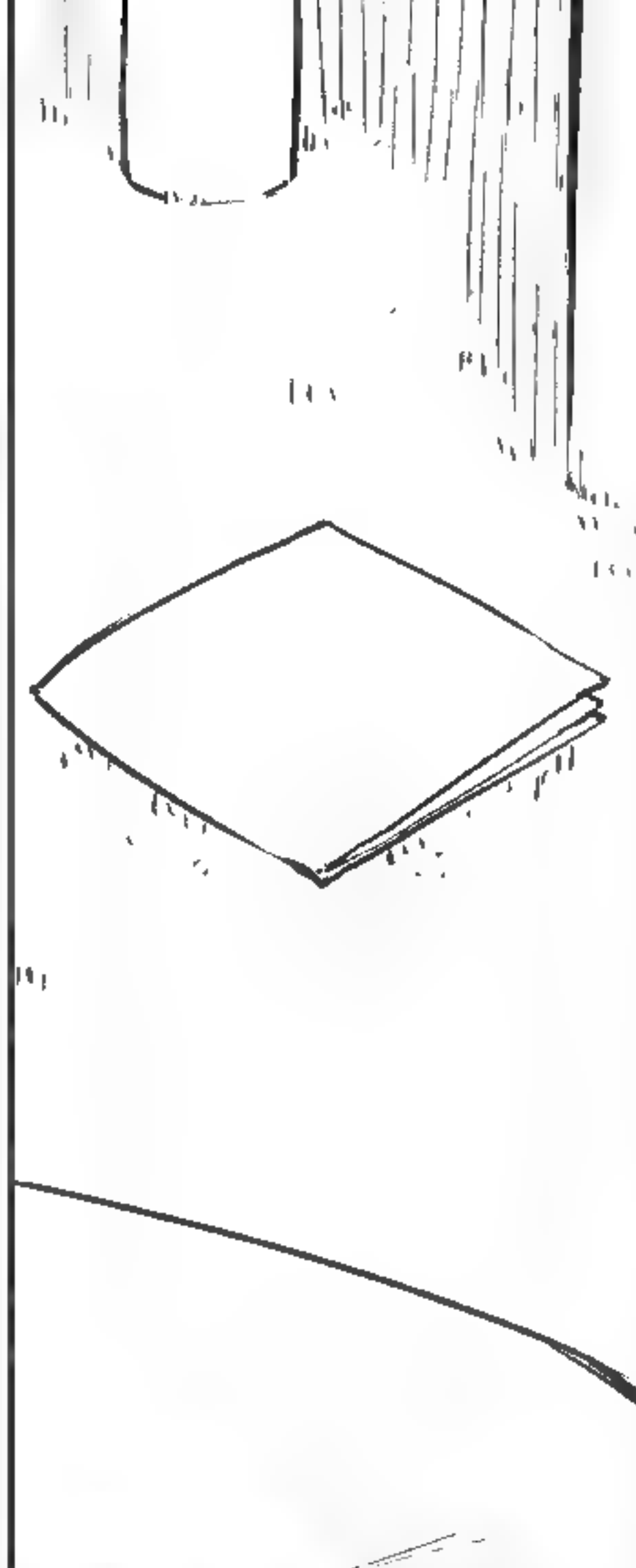


BUT...
TELL
ME ONE
THING.

IS
THAT
SO.

DO
AS YOU
LIKE.

YOU'RE
GETTING NO
FORGIVE-
NESS FROM
ME.





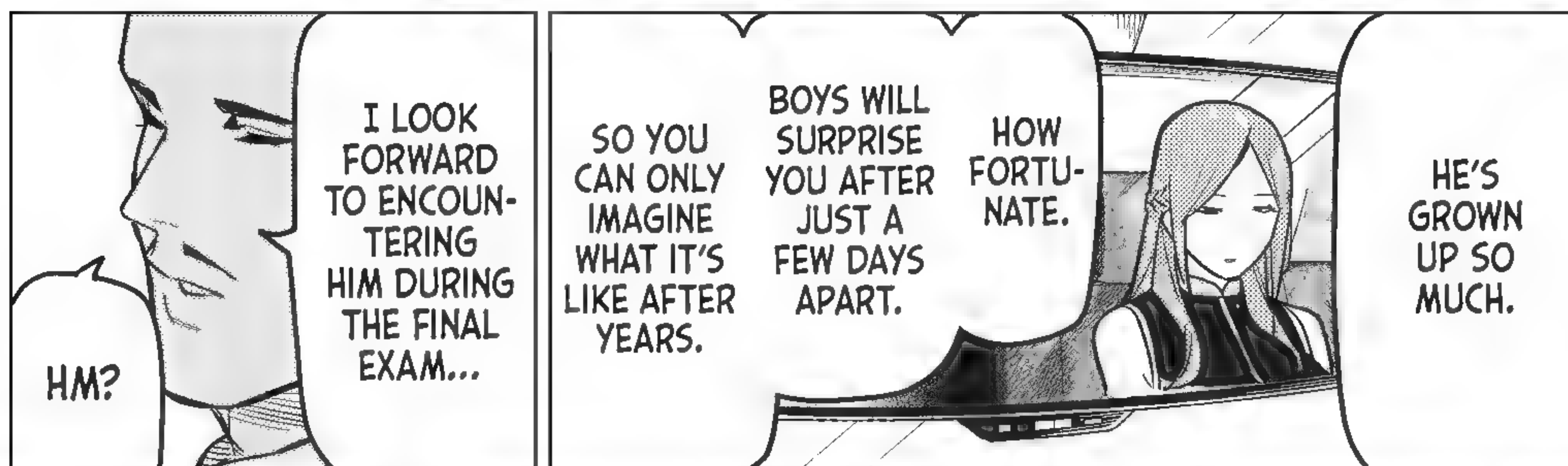
HOW
DO YOU
LIKE THAT,
RANGER
FORCE?

I MADE IT
THROUGH MY
FIRST DAY OF
INFILTRATION.



DID YOUR
REUNION
WITH YOUR
BROTHER
GO WELL?

MA'AM.



HM?

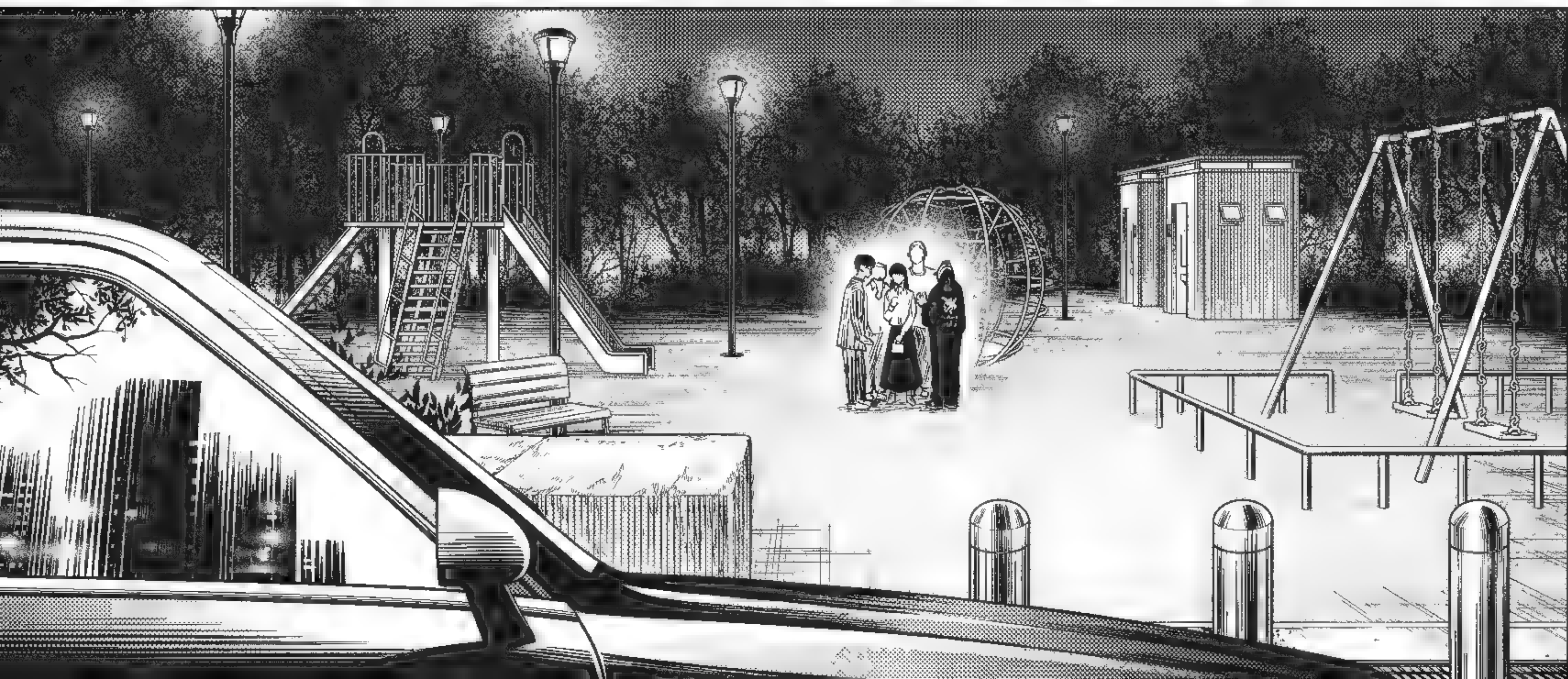
I LOOK
FORWARD
TO ENCOUN-
TERING
HIM DURING
THE FINAL
EXAM...

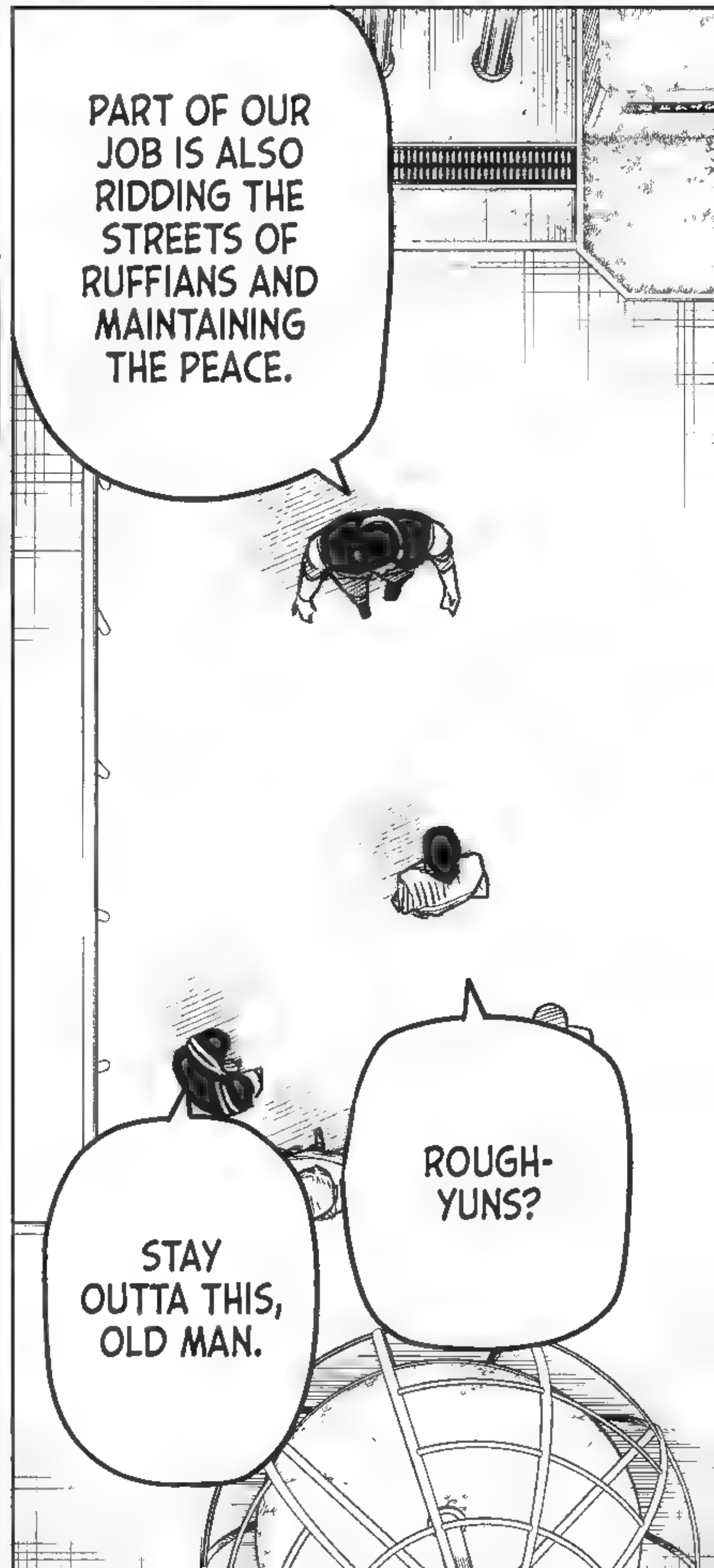
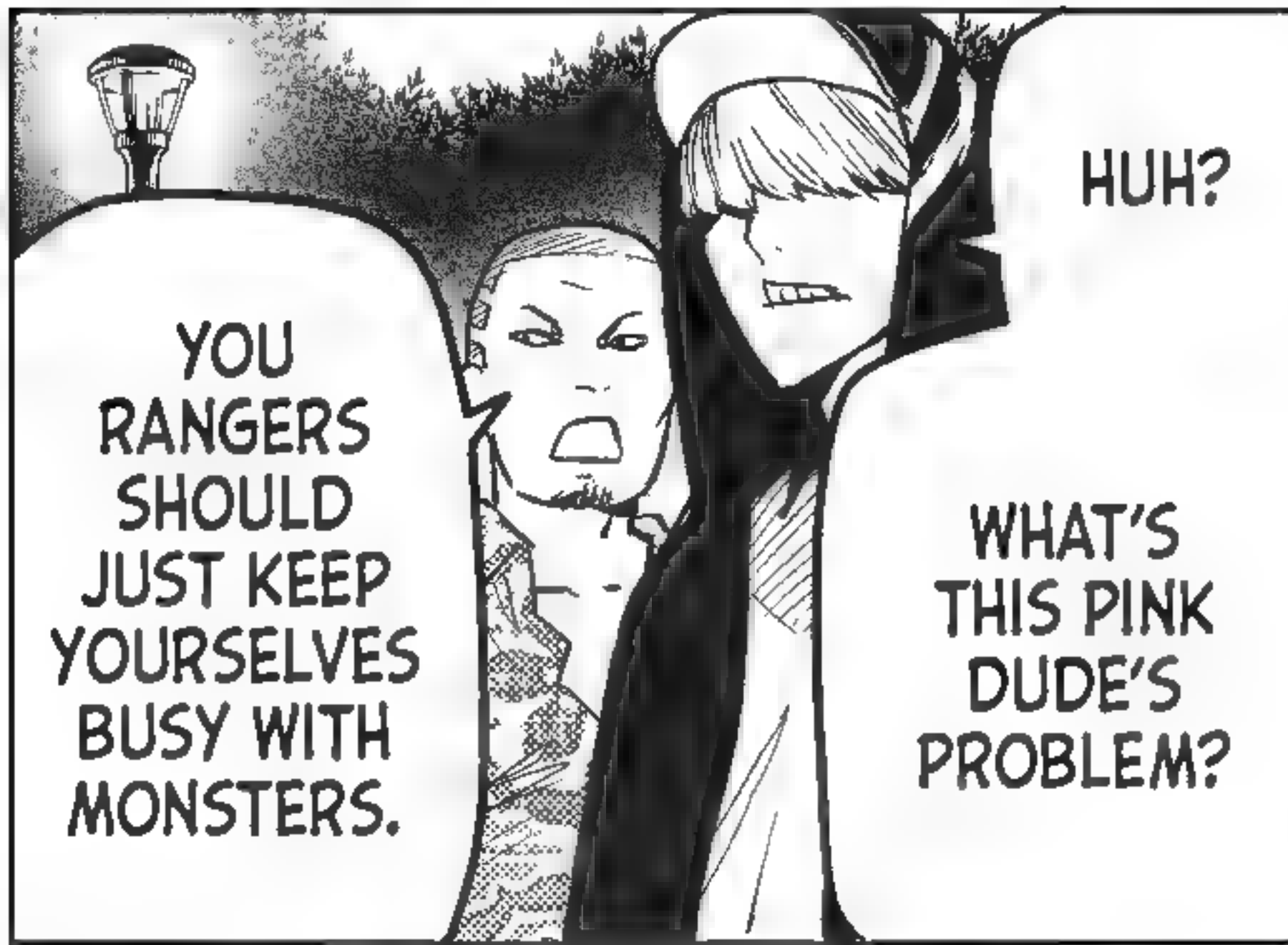
SO YOU
CAN ONLY
IMAGINE
WHAT IT'S
LIKE AFTER
YEARS.

BOYS WILL
SURPRISE
YOU AFTER
JUST A
FEW DAYS
APART.

HOW
FORTU-
NATE.

HE'S
GROWN
UP SO
MUCH.







A—

A DRAGON
KEEPER?!



OH
DEAR...

GET BACK,
NADESHIKO.

H-HEY!
STOP
STARING
AND GET
HIM!



OH! MY
GOODNESS!

HRNGH?

WHAT A
TERRIBLE
INJURY,
YOU POOR
THING...



HYAH!!

I'M
FEELING
MYSELF
TODAY.
I'LL TAKE
THEM ON.

SHE'S JUST
A PRETTY
FACE FOR
THE DRAGON
KEEPERS!



DON'T BE
SCARED!

THAT'S
PINK!

SHIT!
WHAT'S
A TOP
RANGER
FORCE
MEMBER
DOING
HERE...?

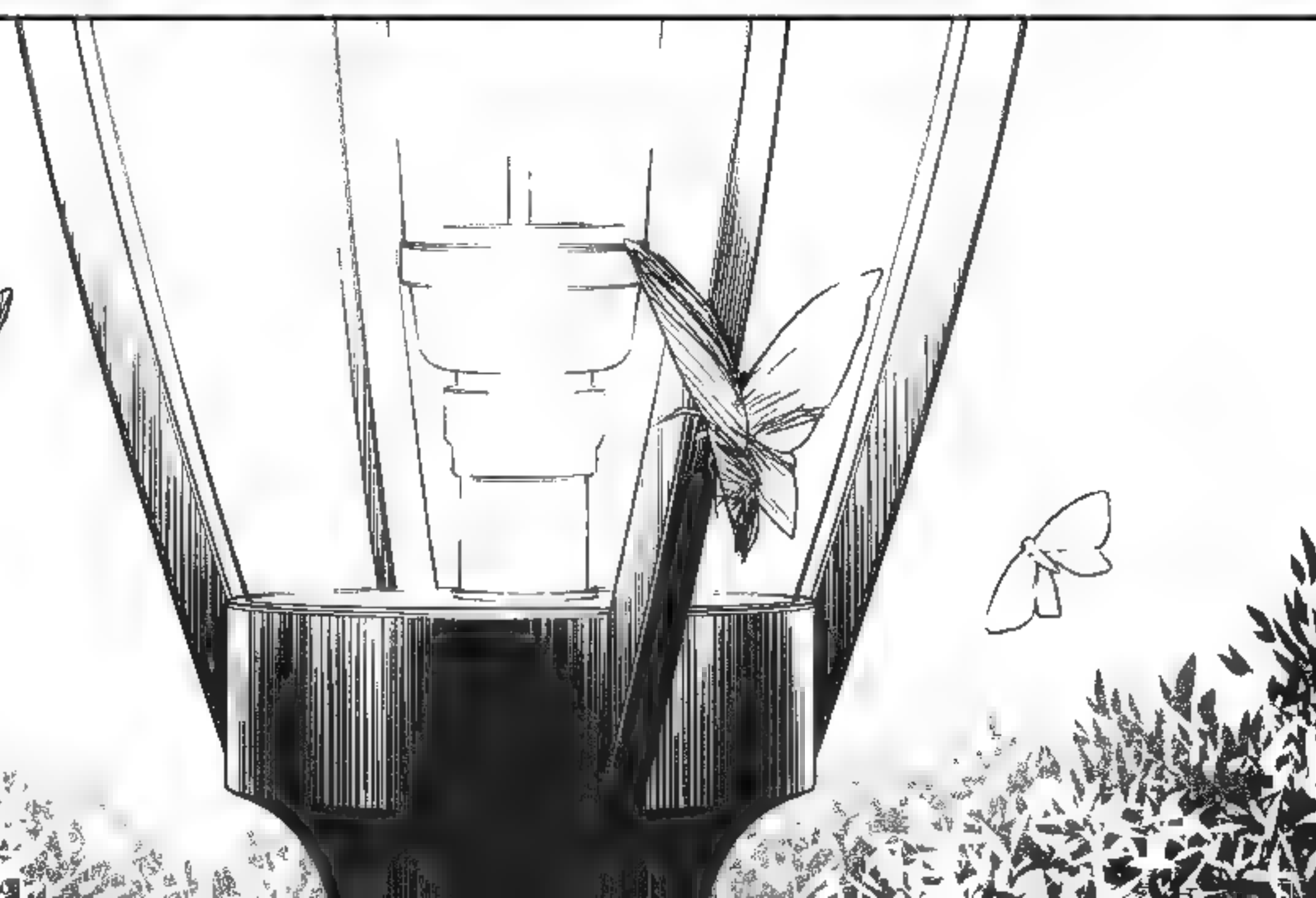


HWOO

OOO

YOU
REALLY
HAVE
GROWN.

HIBIKI.



THE
THOUGHT
OF IT STILL
SENDS
SHIVERS
DOWN MY
SPINE.

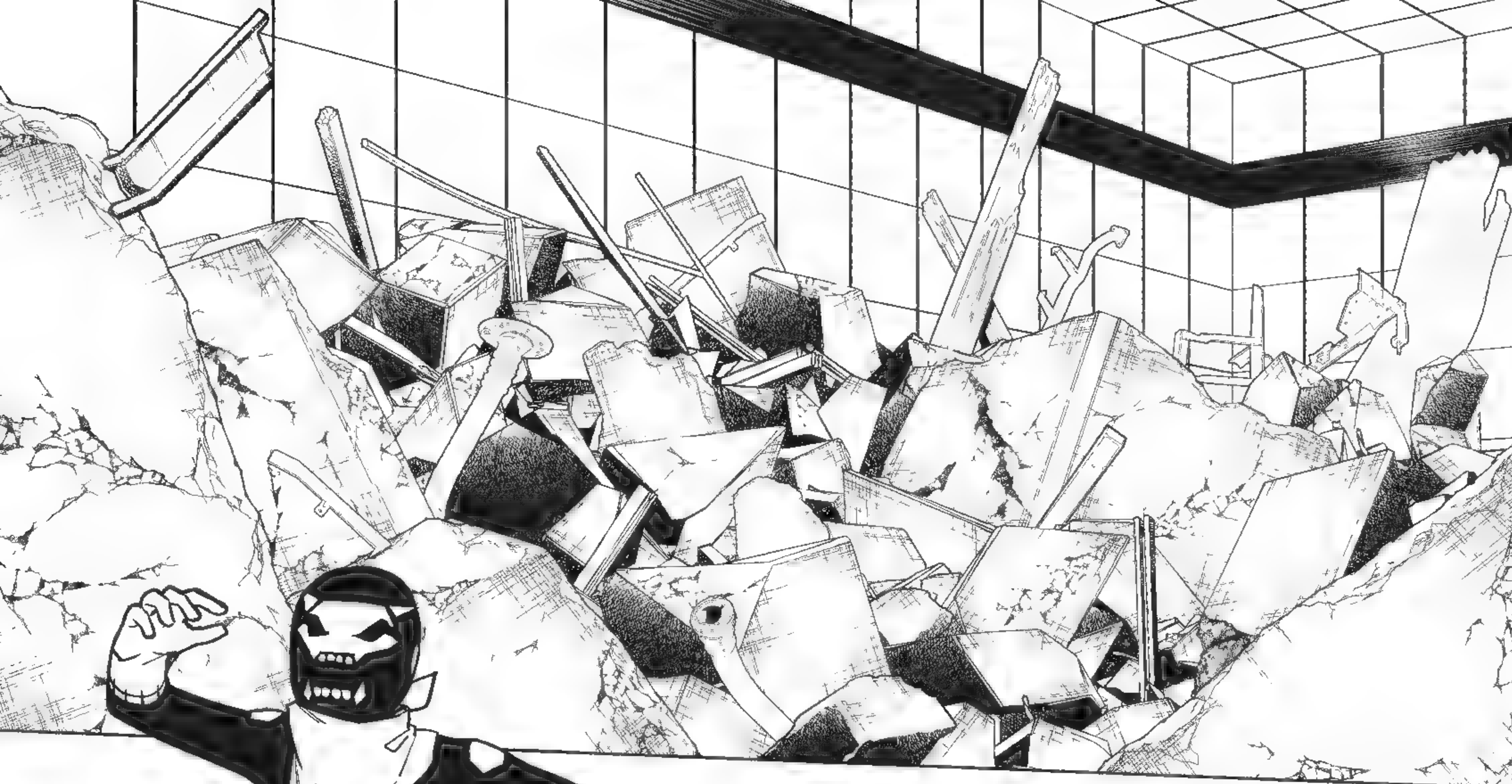
I COULDN'T
BELIEVE THAT
REBELLIOUS
LOOK IN
YOUR EYES.

YOU'VE
MADE
YOUR BIG
SISTER
PROUD.

IT SEEMS
THAT GIRLS
ARE JUST AS
LIKELY TO
SURPRISE YOU
AS BOYS.

OH,
HIBIKI!





SKREEEE!

WE'RE ATTACKING
FROM THE RIGHT,
SO YOU COME
FROM THE LEFT!

ONE OF THE
WEAKLINGS
GOT AWAY!
IT'S HEADING
YOUR WAY!

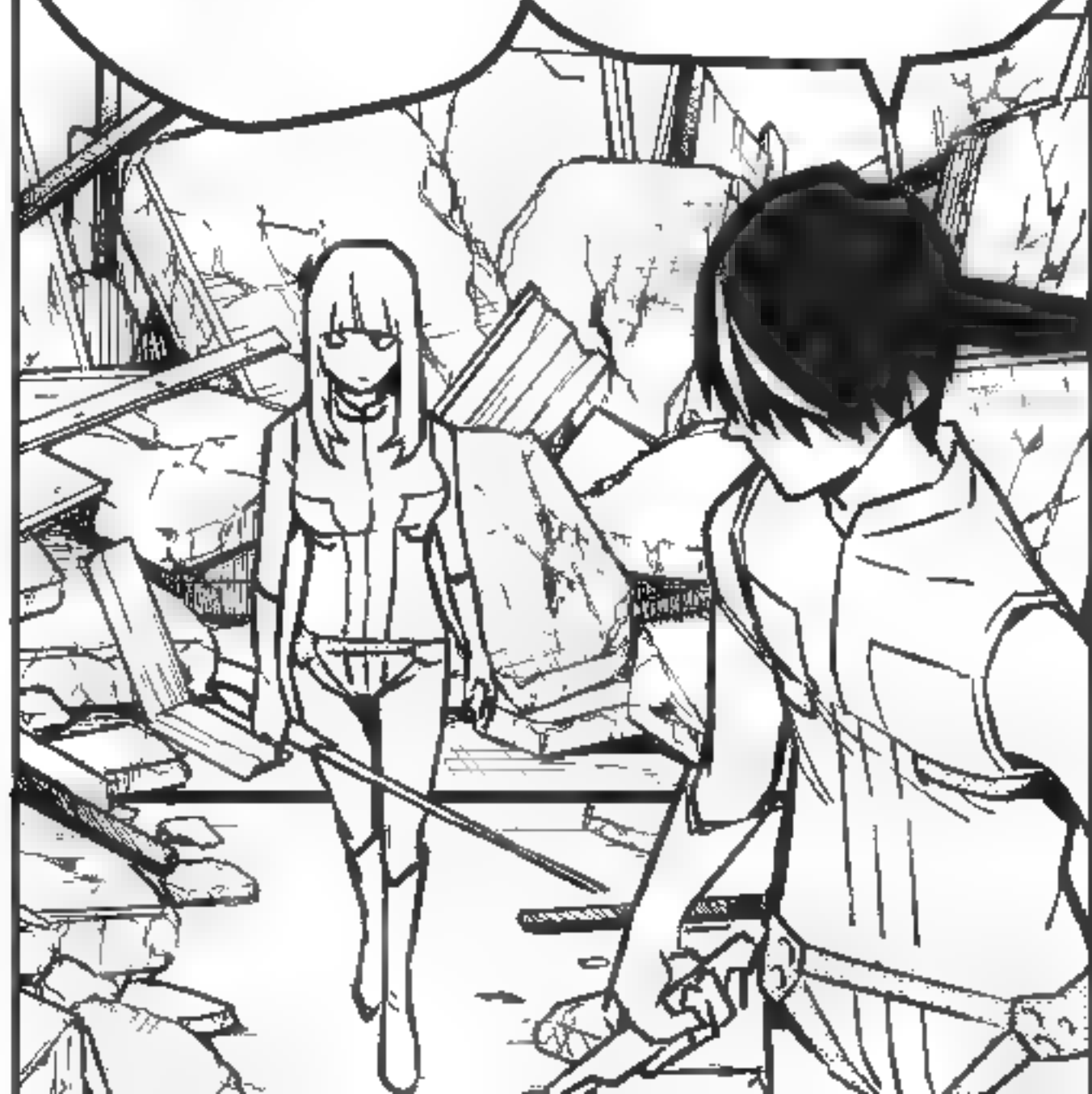
HEEEY!

SHALL WE
GO FROM
THE LEFT,
YUKINO-
SAN?

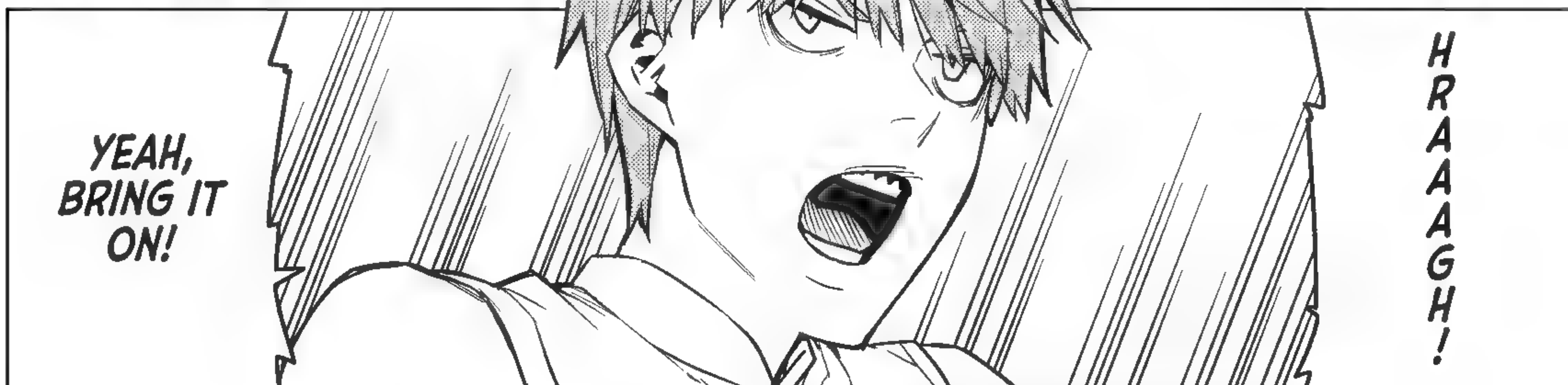
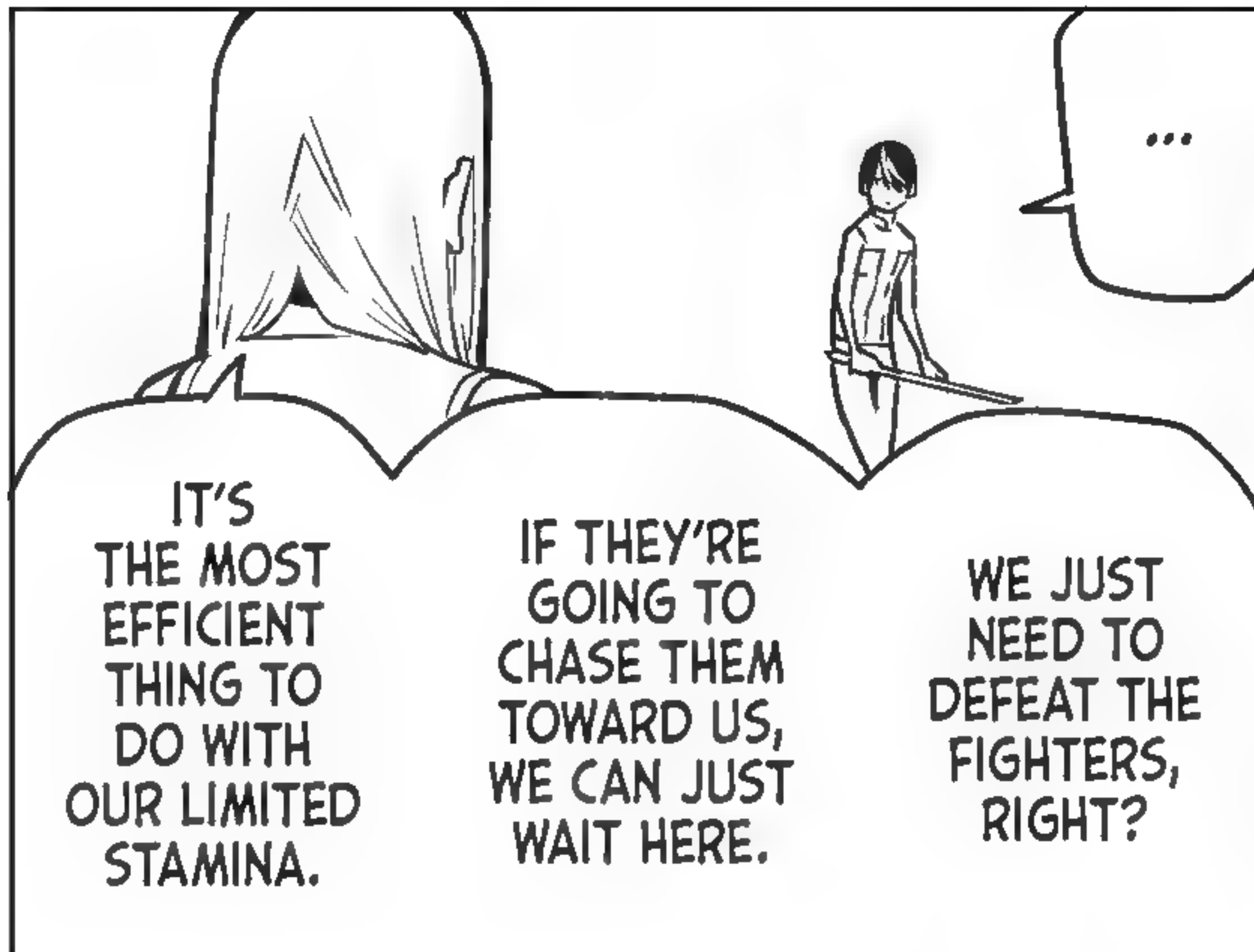
WE CAN
PINCH THEM
IF WE GO
THIS WAY.

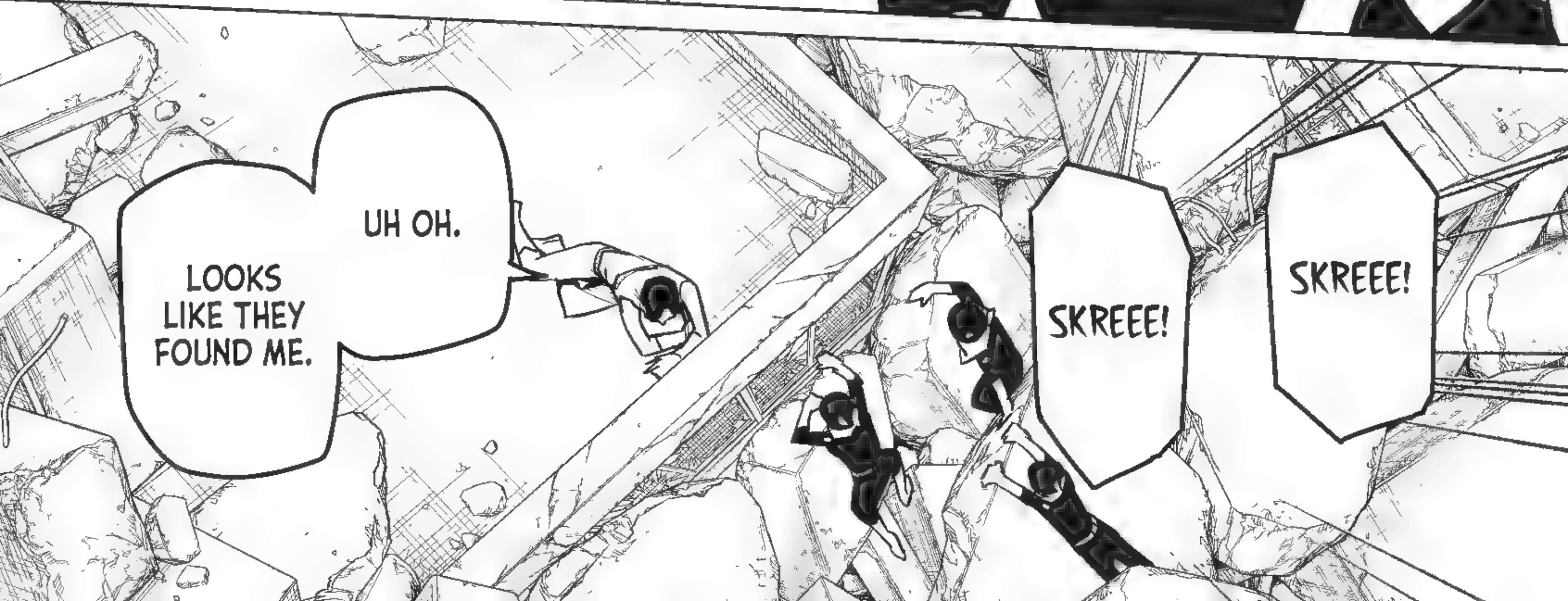
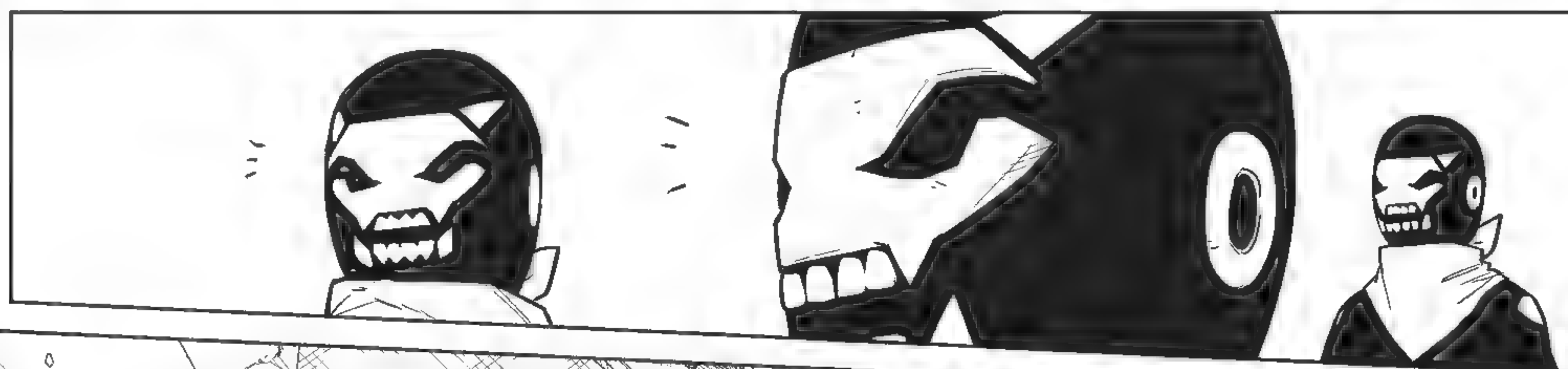
HOW
DO YOU STILL
HAVE THIS MUCH
ENERGY AFTER
ALL THESE DAYS
OF TRAINING IN
A ROW...?

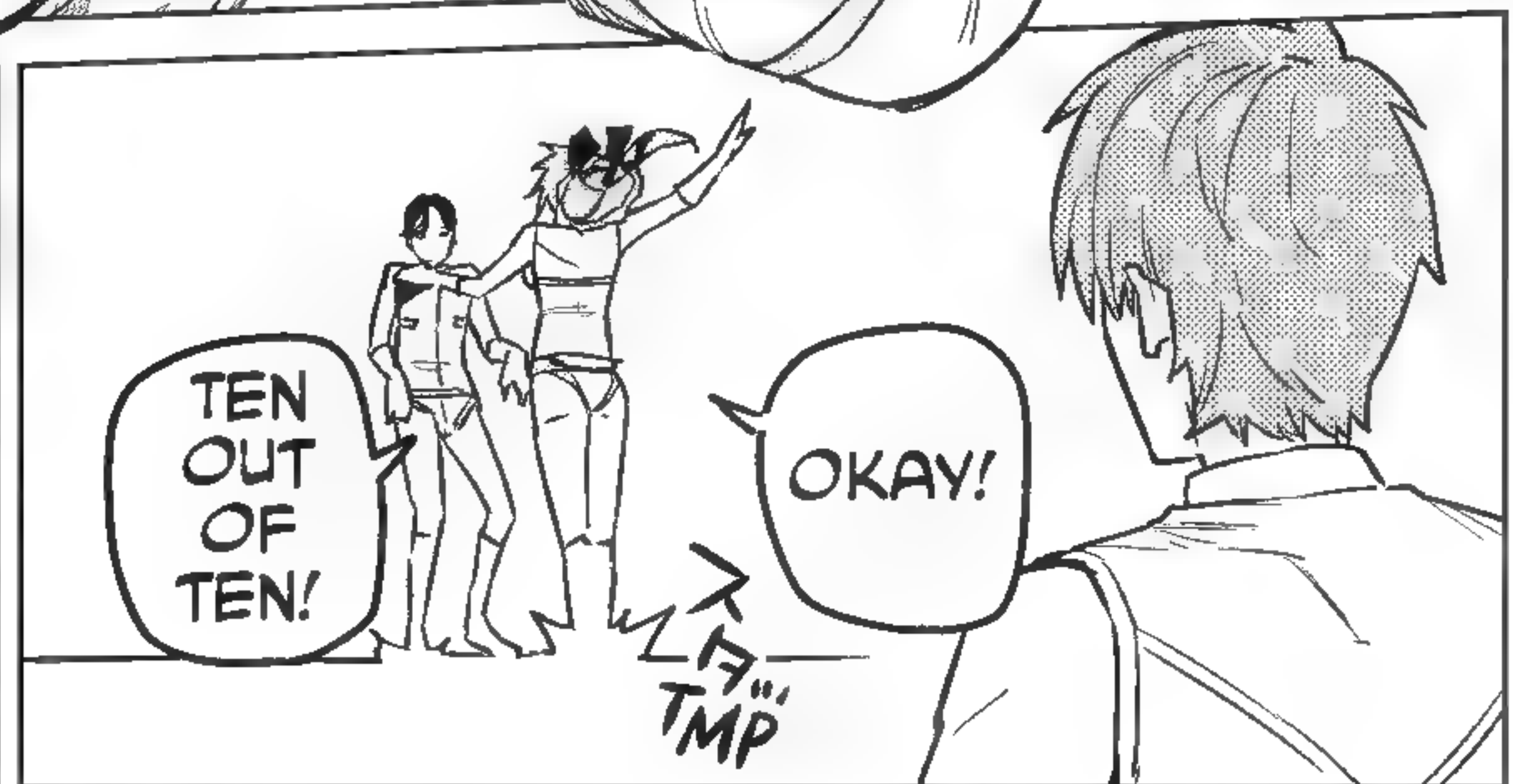
REALLY...?



Chapter 17: **THE WORST PAIRING**









IF THIS IS
THE FINAL EXAM,
HOW ARE THEY
GRADING US?

THEY'RE
JUST MAKING
US BATTLE
FIGHTERS DAY
AFTER DAY
UNTIL WE'RE
EXHAUSTED...

DON'T
FEEL TOO
DISHEART-
ENED,
SAKURAMA!

IF ANYTHING,
YOU'VE
IMPROVED
SINCE THE
FIRST DAY.



OH, IT WAS
NOTHING.

I FEEL
ASHAMED.

DAMN.
I WASN'T
ABLE TO DO
A THING...

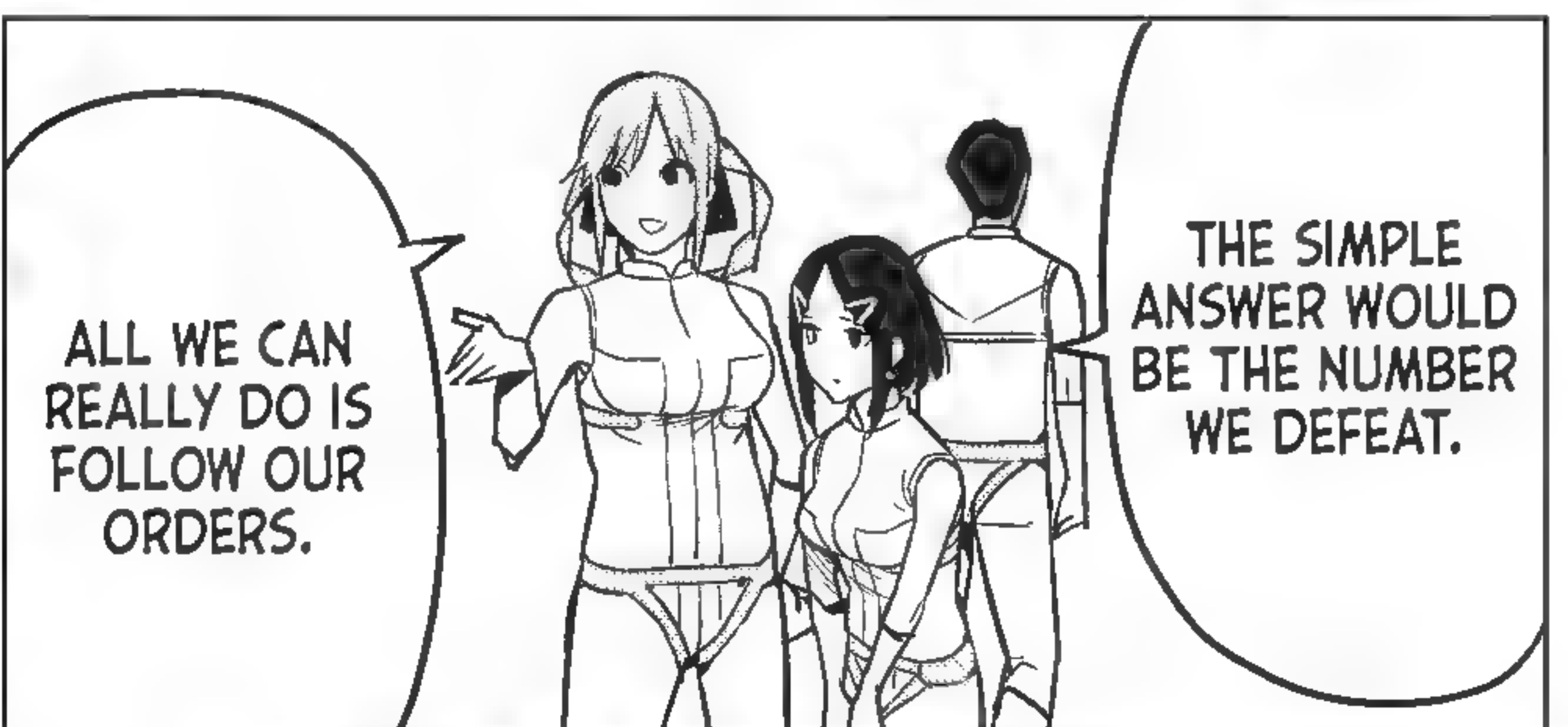


I HAVE TO
SAY, IS THIS
REALLY IT?



WELL.

EXCEPT
FOR ONE
OF US...



ALL WE CAN
REALLY DO IS
FOLLOW OUR
ORDERS.

THE SIMPLE
ANSWER WOULD
BE THE NUMBER
WE DEFEAT.



YOU'RE
REPEATING
THE TRAINING,
AREN'T YOU?

OH,
RIGHT.

UM...
WHY
ME...?



ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT?

ISHIKAWA-
SAAAN.



HAH...

OH,
C'MON...

SHOULD YOU
REALLY BE
HOARDING
INFORMATION
LIKE THAT?

YOU
KNOW, AS
AN ALLY OF
JUSTICE?



MAN,
THAT'S NO
FAIR.

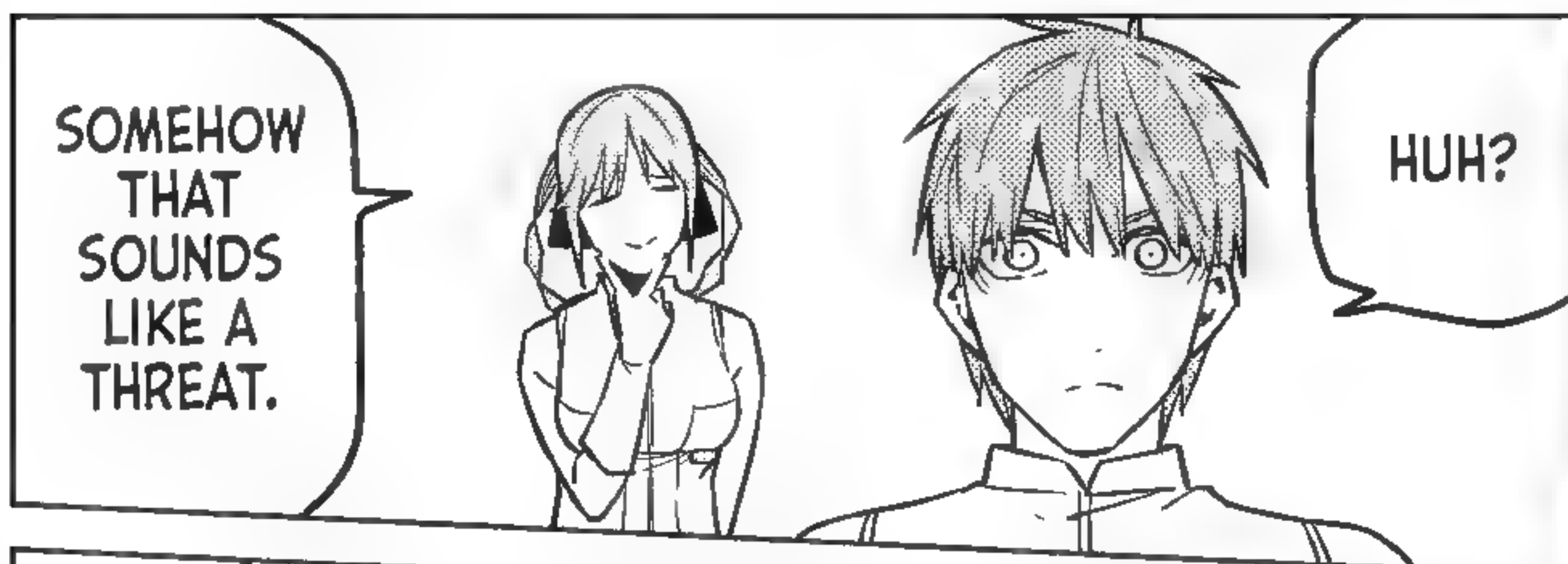


IT'S JUST
A GUESS,
BUT...

BUT I
THINK THINGS
ARE GOING TO
GET SERIOUS
SOON.

I DON'T
KNOW
WHICH ONE
WE'LL GET
THIS TIME
AROUND.

THERE ARE
MULTIPLE TEST
PATTERNS.

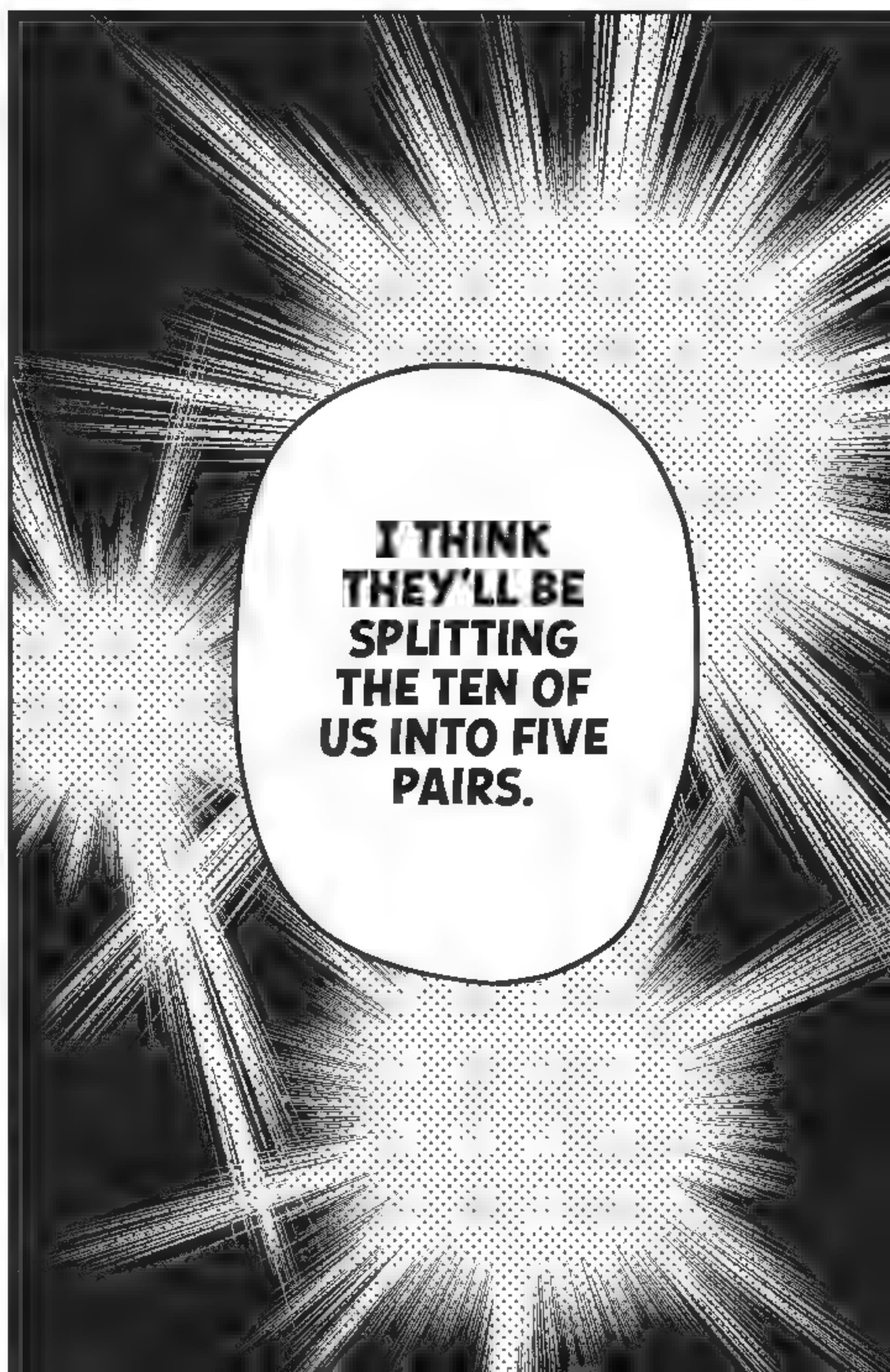


SOMEHOW
THAT
SOUNDS
LIKE A
THREAT.

HUH?



HEY! DON'T
JUST STAND
AROUND DOING
NOTHING!



I THINK
THEY'LL BE
SPLITTING
THE TEN OF
US INTO FIVE
PAIRS.



□□□□
DASH

ONE'S
RUNNING OVER
YOUR WAY!

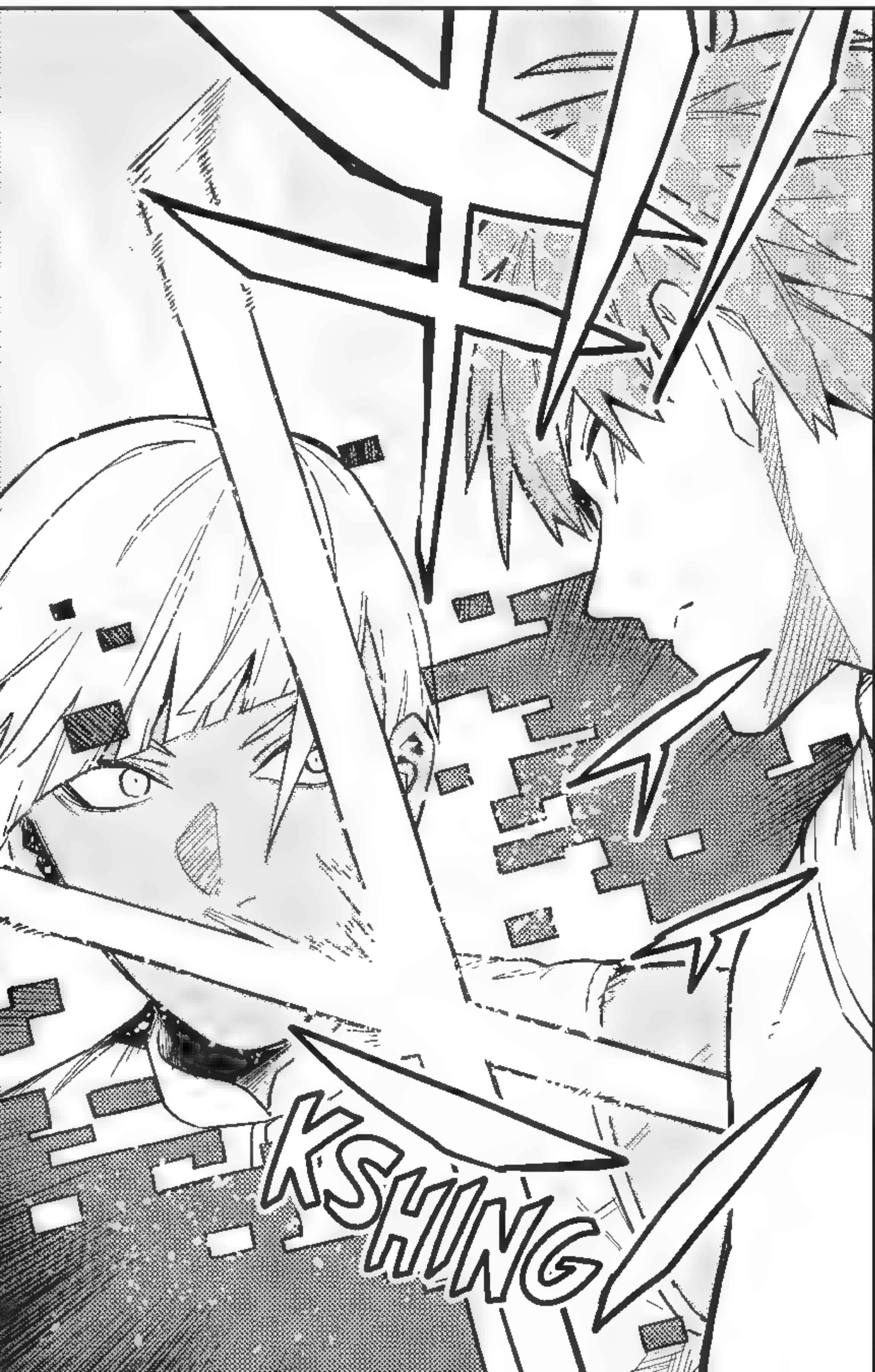


I'LL MAKE
QUICK
WORK OF IT
AND HEAD
TO THE
SURFACE.

HURRY UP
AND START
THE EXAM
ALREADY.

DAMN!
THERE'S
STILL
MORE?

I'LL TAKE
HIM OUT!

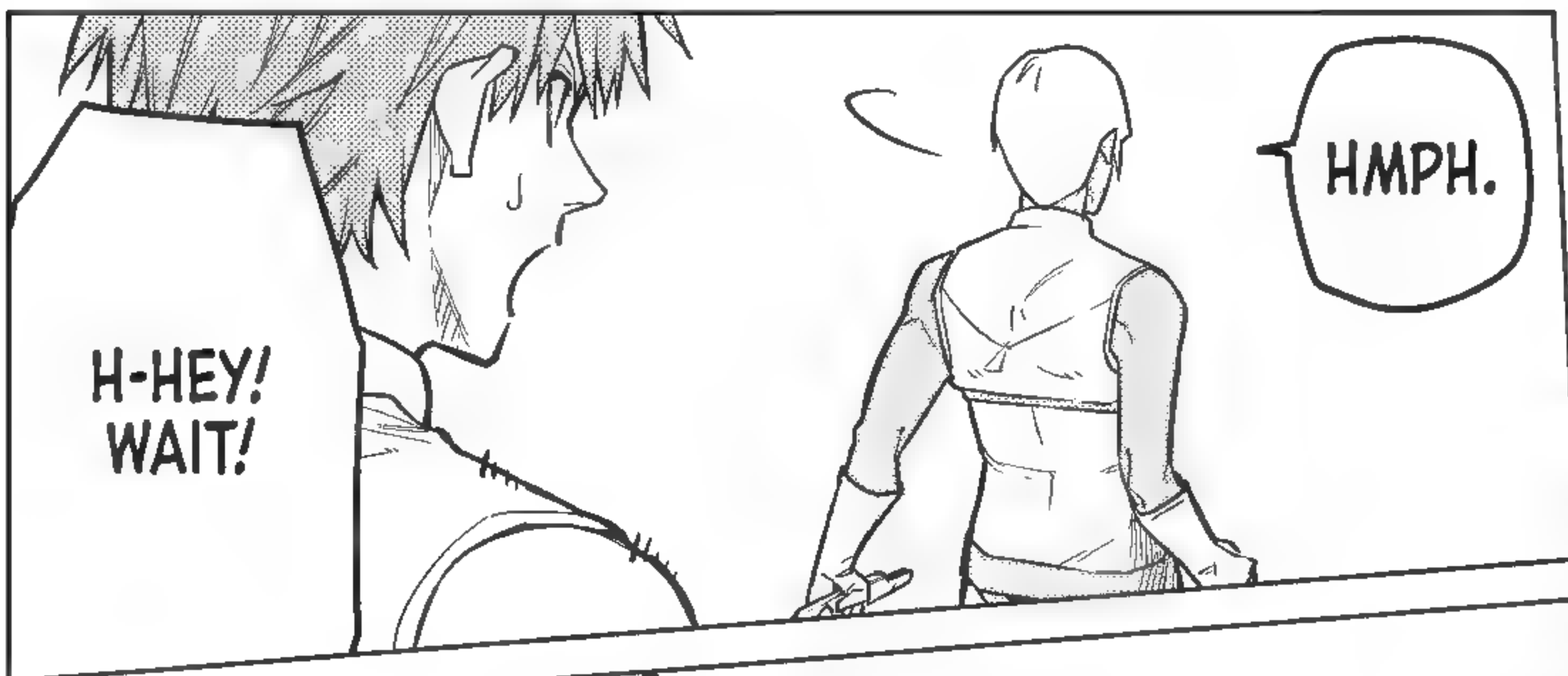


KSHING



...INTO
ALL OF
THEIR
THROATS.

JUST WAIT
UNTIL I
SINK MY
TEETH...



H-HEY!
WAIT!

HMPH.



YOU
SHOULDN'T
BE STEALING
GLORY OUT
FROM UNDER
PEOPLE!

I SAID I'D
GET THAT
ONE!

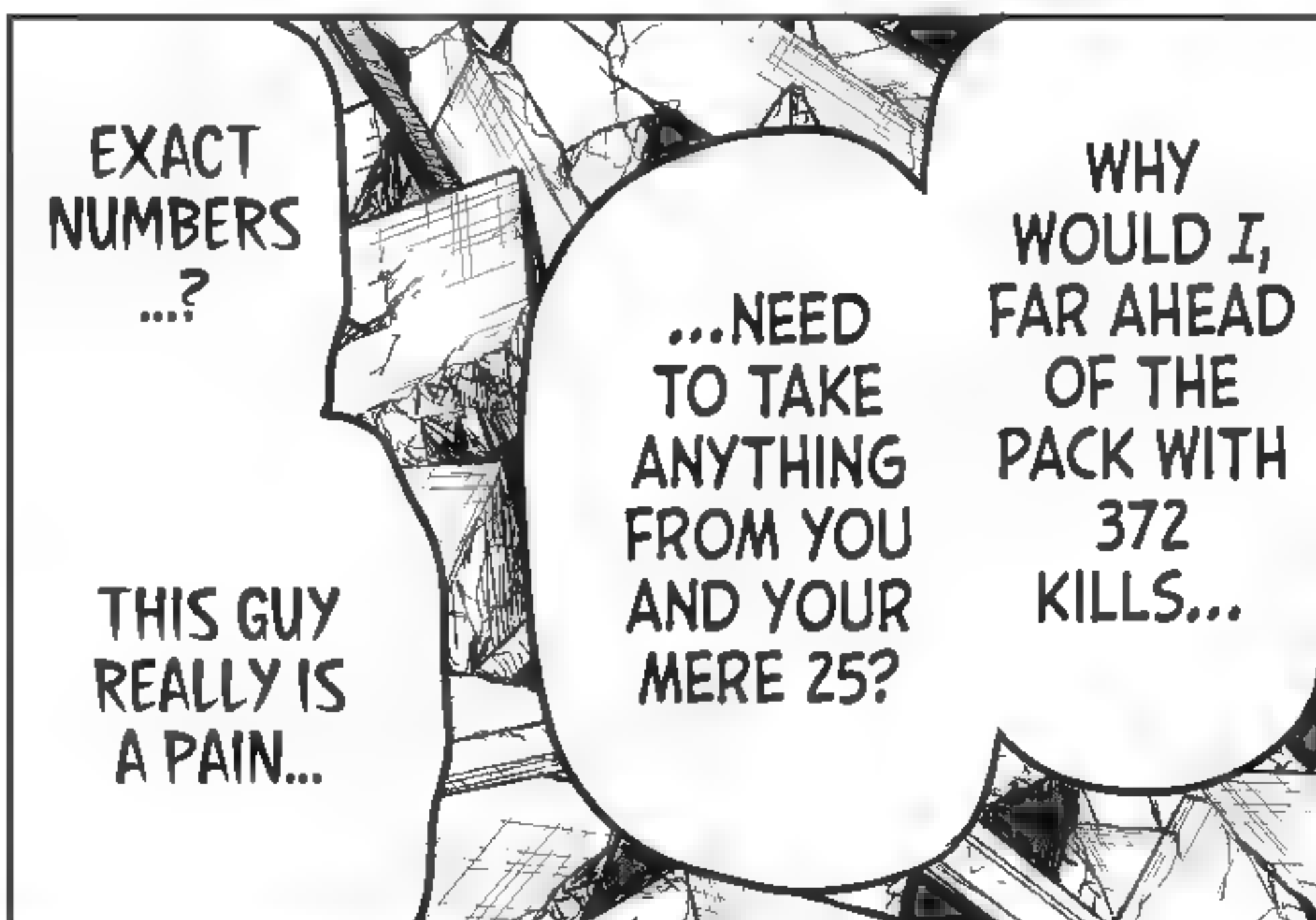


**THAT'S
ENOUGH!**



IF I KEEP
TALKING TO
YOU LIKE
THIS...

ARE YOU
DONE?



EXACT
NUMBERS
...?

THIS GUY
REALLY IS
A PAIN...

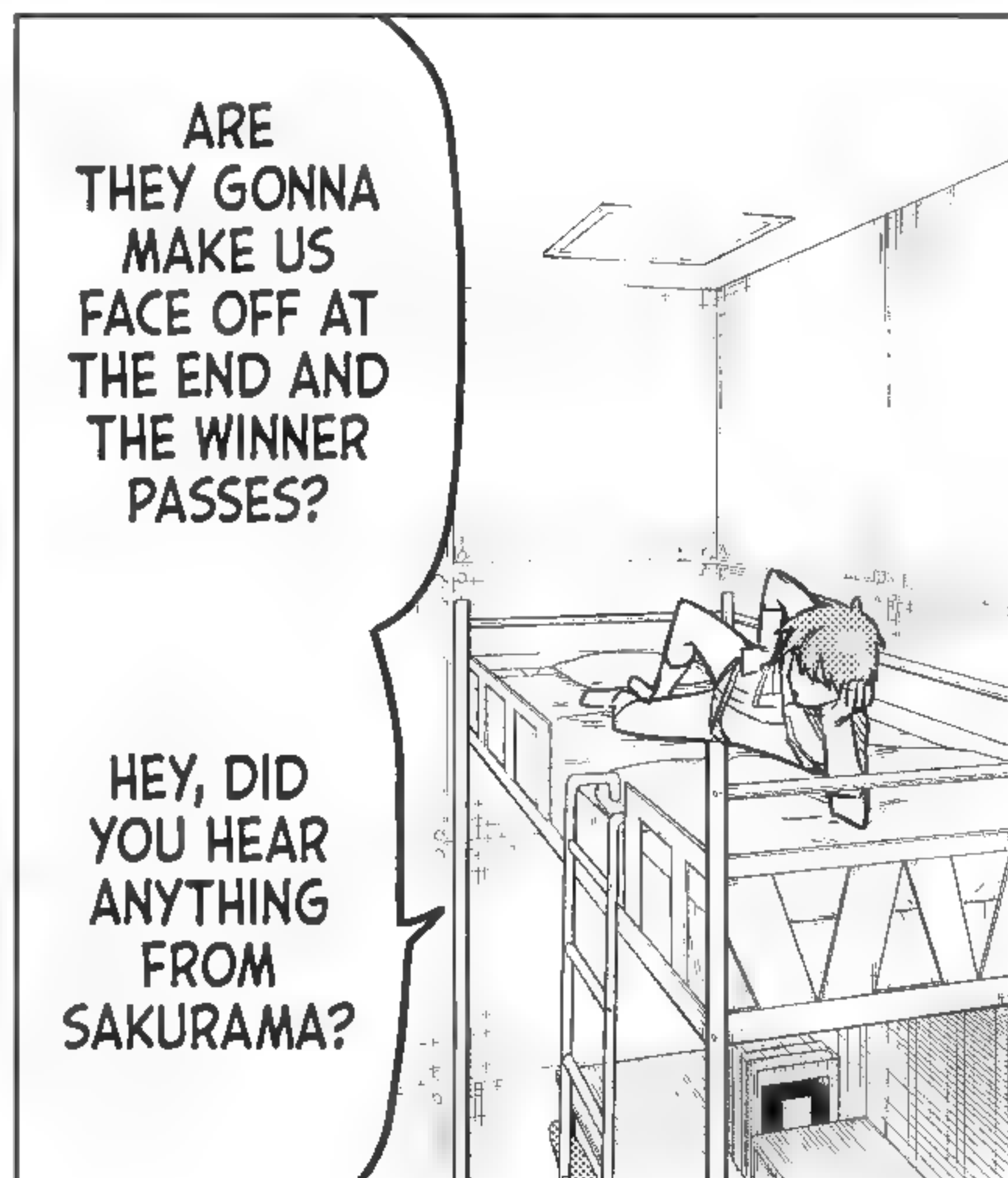
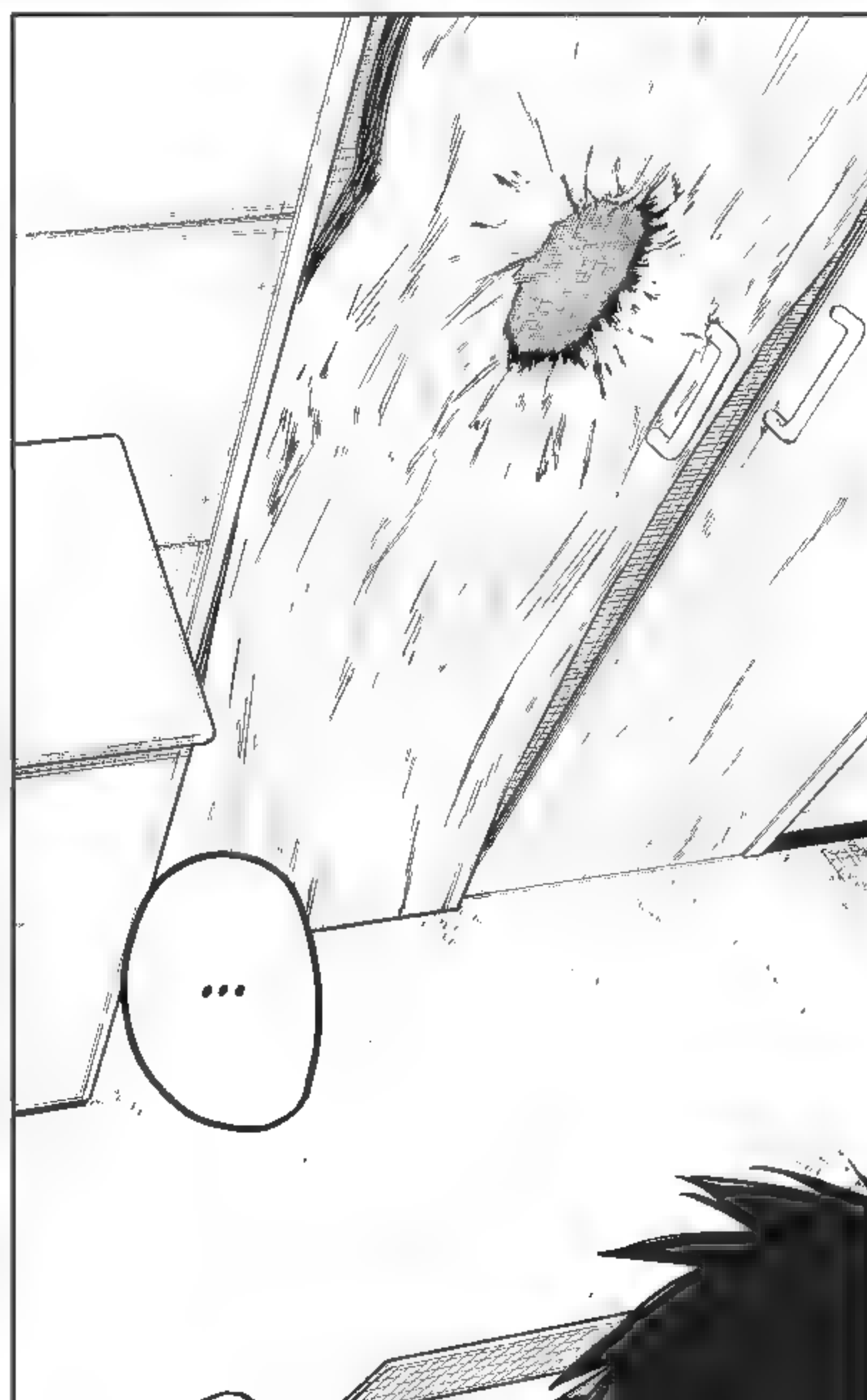
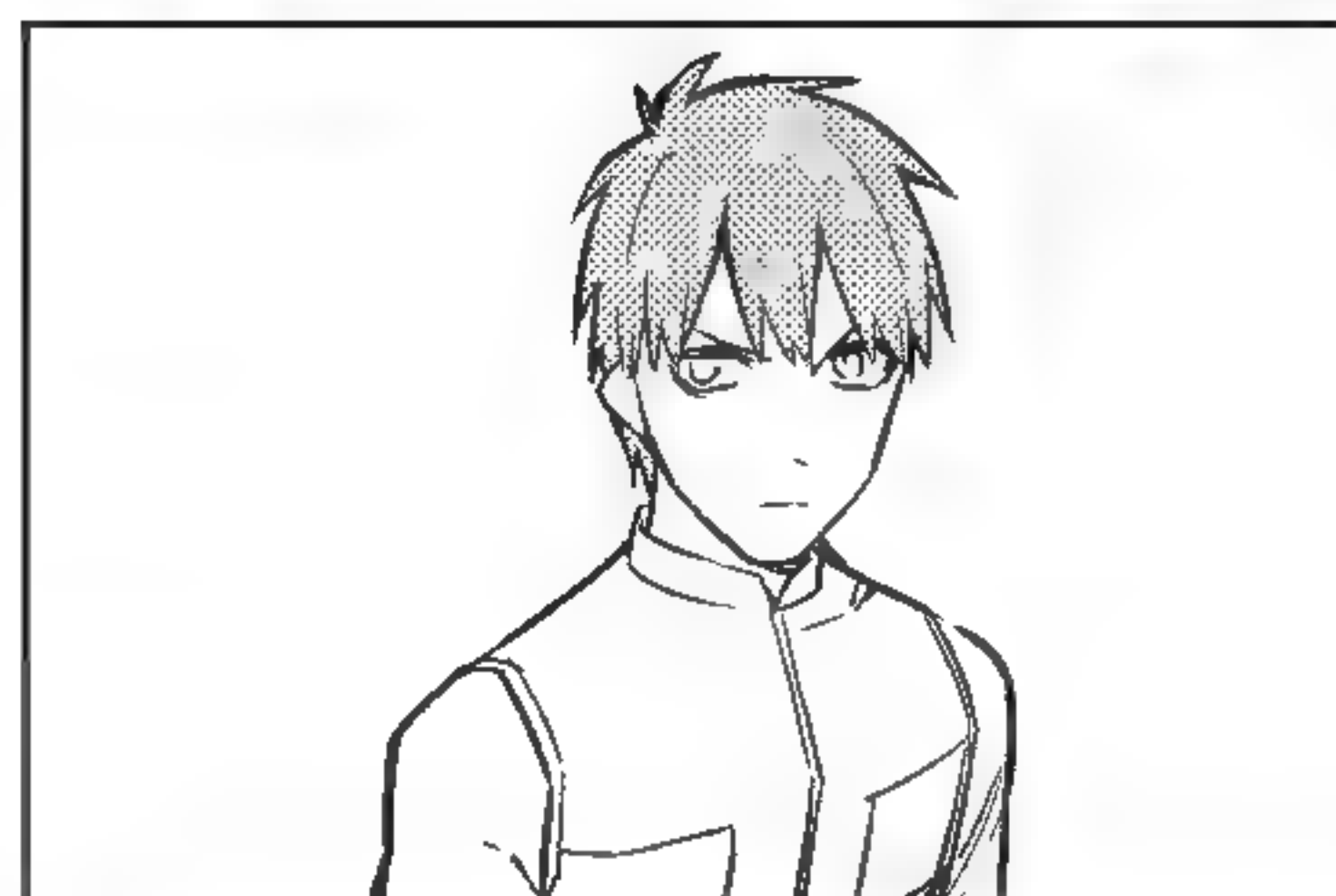
...NEED
TO TAKE
ANYTHING
FROM YOU
AND YOUR
MERE 25?

WHY
WOULD I,
FAR AHEAD
OF THE
PACK WITH
372
KILLS...



OH YEAH?
HOW,
EXACTLY?

...I FEEL
LIKE I MIGHT
SNAP. THAT
NUMBER'S
GONNA GO
UP BY ONE.



SHE'S
NAMED
FIGHTER-

PLEASE
TAKE CARE
OF HER.

DEAR FIGHTER-KUN,

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF HER.

SHE'S NAMED FIGHTER

...IT
CONTAINED
A LETTER
FROM
SAKURAMA.

SURPRISINGLY,
WHEN I OPENED
THAT BOX TO
PUT HER HEAD
INSIDE...

!!
FIGHTER XX

DIE SO
HARD YOUR
IMMORTALITY
FAILS.

DIE.

TRASH.

DON'T USE
THAT NAME SO
FRIVOLOUSLY.

XX.

THE
THOUGHT
THAT YOU'RE
A FIGHTER
JUST LIKE
ME IS
REPULSIVE.

I HOPE
I FIGHT
SOMEONE
WEAK.

OUR TOP
PRIORITY
SHOULD BE
ME MAKING
IT THROUGH
THE FINAL
EXAM.

YOU
UNDER-
STAND MY
POSITION,
DON'T
YOU?

WE SHOULD
GET ALONG
AS FELLOW
FIGHTERS.



SHIPPOU IS...
A STRONG
FIGHTER, BUT
SLOW-WITTED.

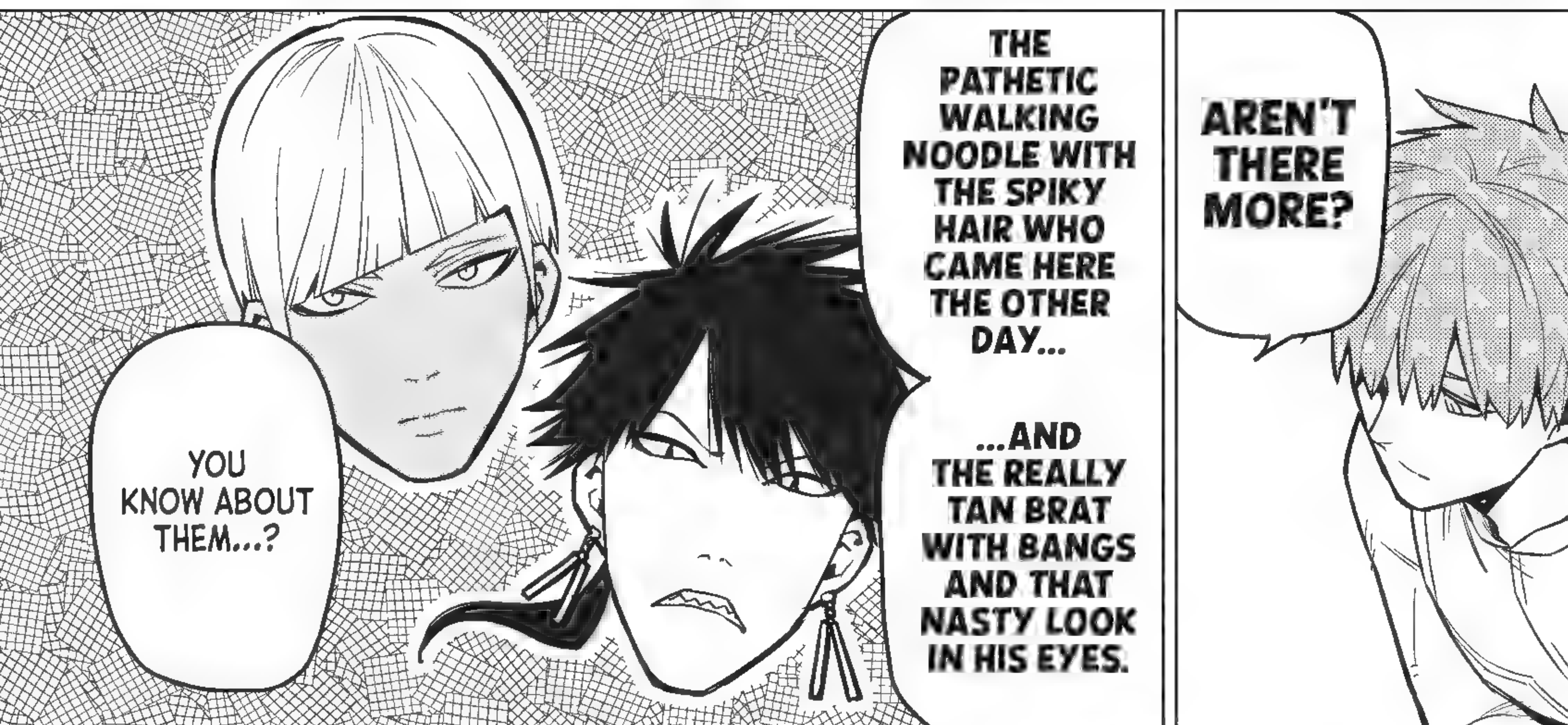
AND AKE-
BAYASHI.

YUKINO.

ISHIKAWA.

SOME
AREN'T AS
STRONG AS
OTHERS.

BASED ON
WHAT I SAW
THIS WEEK, I
NEED TO LOOK
OUT FOR...



YOU
KNOW ABOUT
THEM...?

THE
PATHETIC
WALKING
NOODLE WITH
THE SPIKY
HAIR WHO
CAME HERE
THE OTHER
DAY...

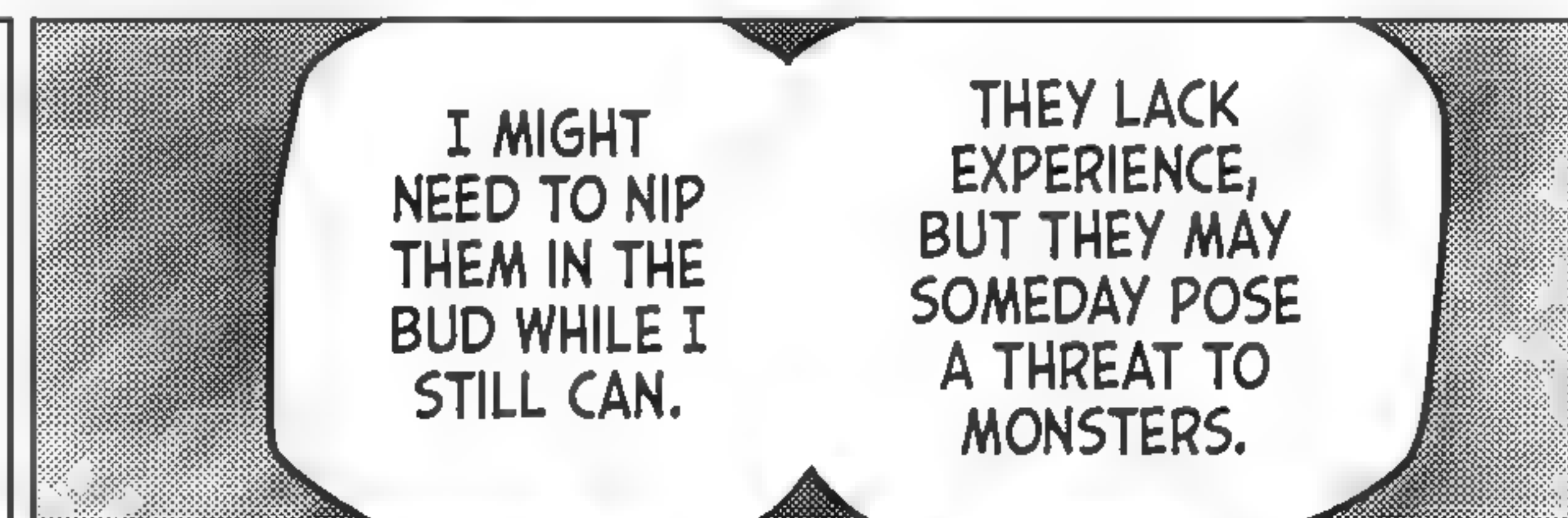
...AND
THE REALLY
TAN BRAT
WITH BANGS
AND THAT
NASTY LOOK
IN HIS EYES.



AREN'T
THERE
MORE?



JUST
DON'T COME
TO SOME KIND
OF PATHETIC
END.



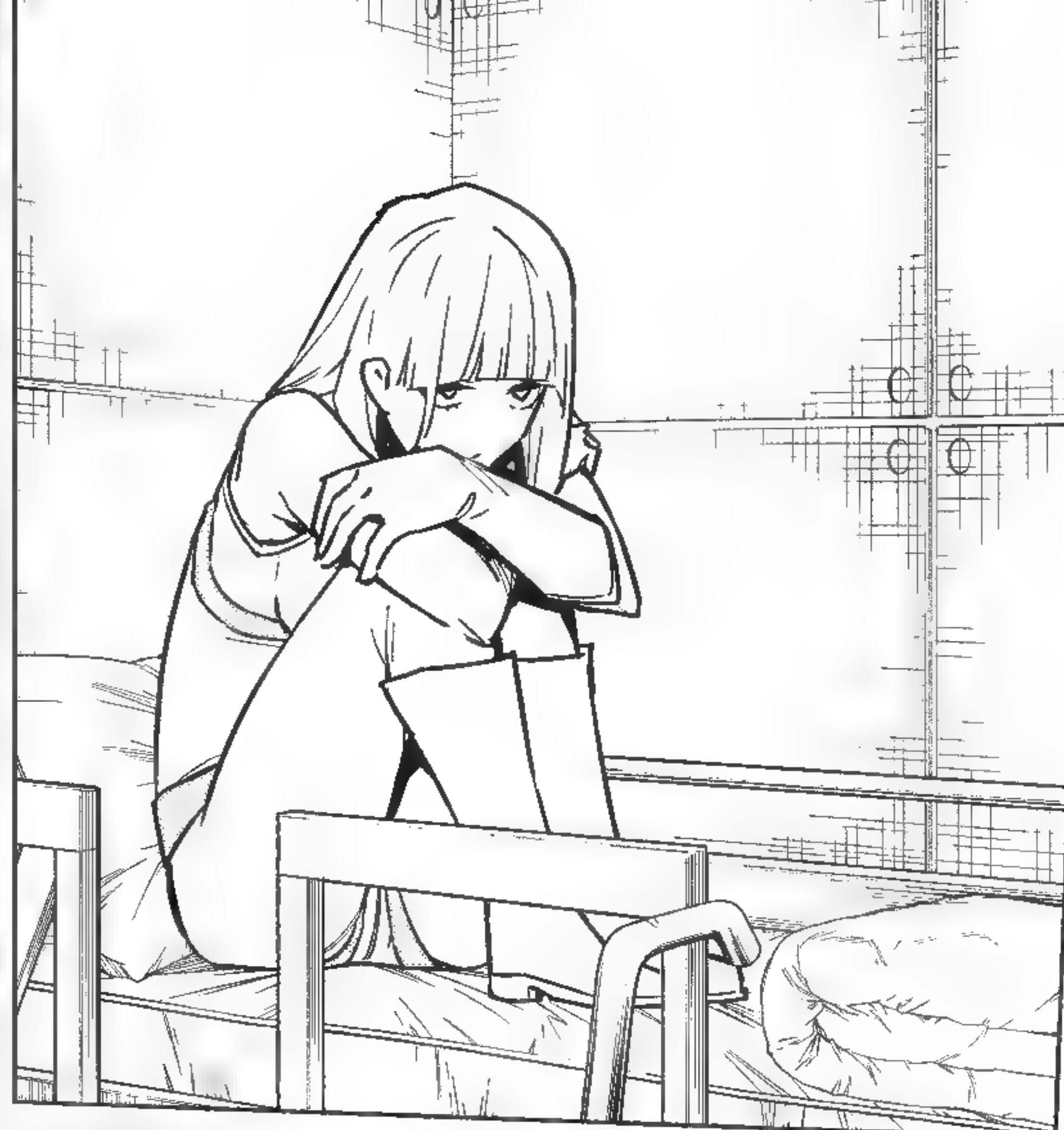
I MIGHT
NEED TO NIP
THEM IN THE
BUD WHILE I
STILL CAN.

THEY LACK
EXPERIENCE,
BUT THEY MAY
SOMEDAY POSE
A THREAT TO
MONSTERS.



WE'RE
MONSTERS.

IT'S FINE
TO PRETEND
TO BE THEIR
FRIEND, BUT
DON'T
FORGET...

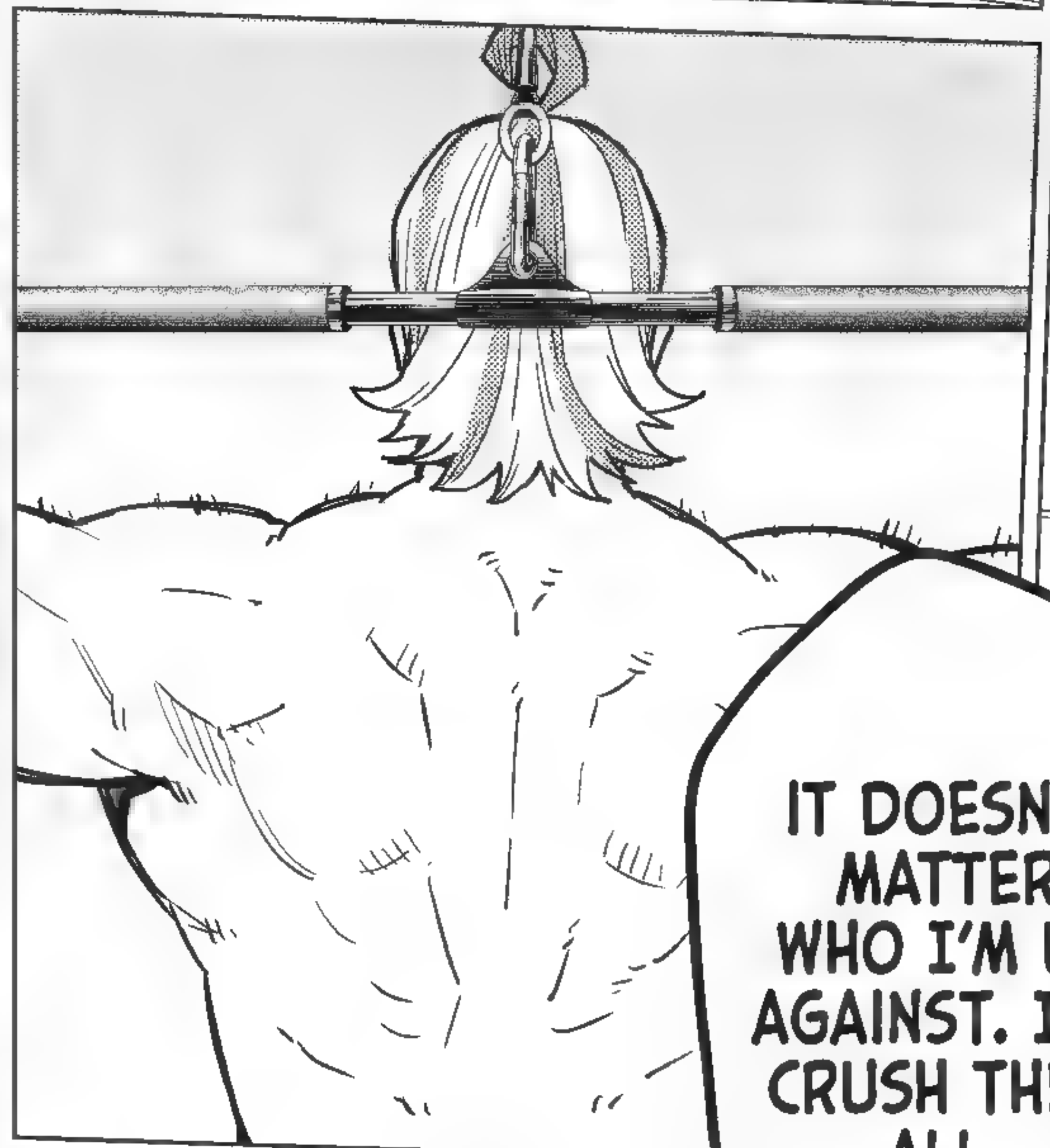


ALL
SURFACE-
DWELLERS
ARE MY
ENEMIES.



HOW
COULD I
FORGET?

I'VE BEEN
HUMILIATED BY
THEM FOR OVER
A DECADE.



IT DOESN'T
MATTER
WHO I'M UP
AGAINST. I'LL
CRUSH THEM
ALL.





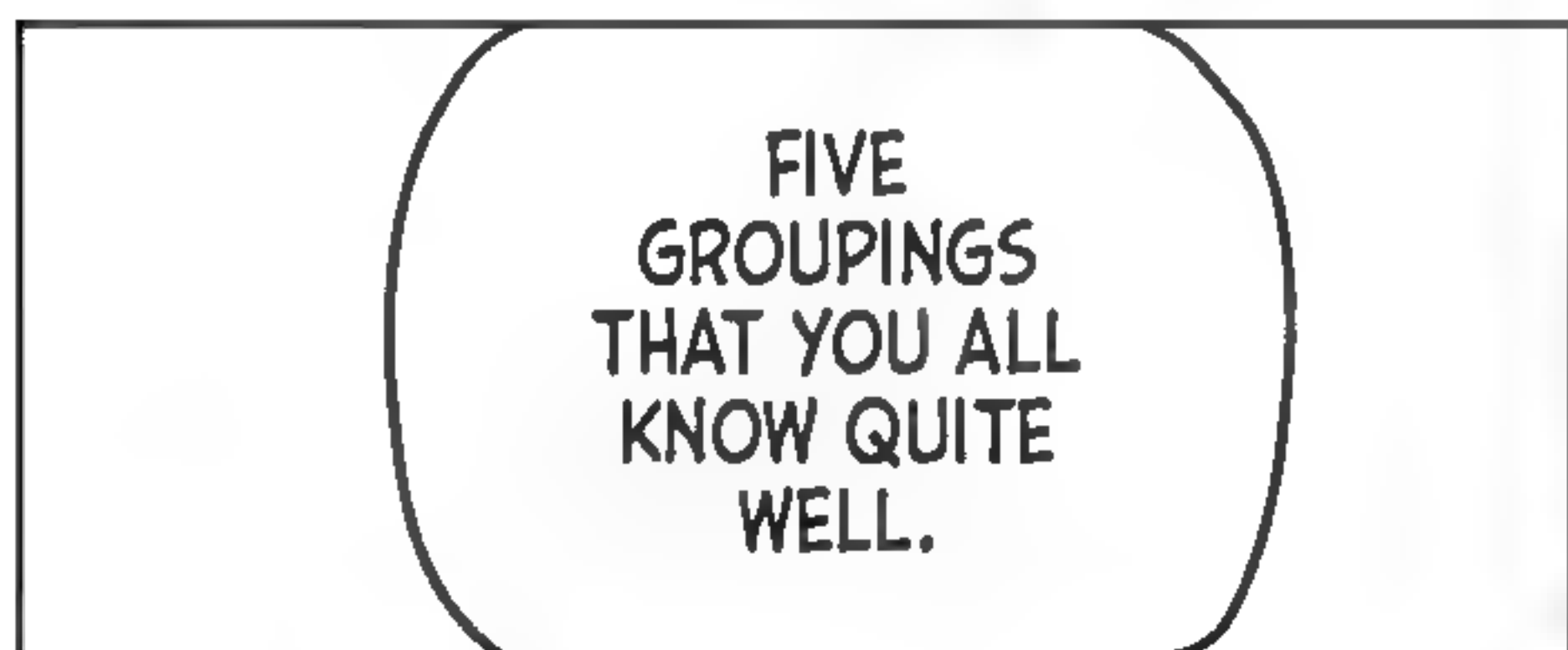
YOU'VE BEEN
SPLIT INTO FIVE
TYPES BASED ON
YOUR EARLIER
TRAINING.

I'LL NOW
EXPLAIN THE
RULES OF THE
FINAL EXAM.



FIVE?

SO THESE
ARE THE
PAIRS...



FIVE
GROUPINGS
THAT YOU ALL
KNOW QUITE
WELL.



ME? AS
SUPPORT?

OOH...
SO THAT'S
HOW IT IS.

FIRST OFF,
REAR-GUARD
SUPPORT
SPECIALISTS.

PINK
SQUAD.



I THOUGHT
THIS MIGHT
HAPPEN...

IT'S NOT
LIKE I SIT IN
THE SHADOWS
BECAUSE I
WANT TO OR
ANYTHING.

**GREEN
SQUAD.**

**STEALTH
SPECIALISTS
WHO ATTACK
FROM THE
SHADOWS.**



DON'T GO
THINKING
WE'RE
ANYTHING
ALIKE.

HEAR THAT,
YUKINO-SAN?
WE'RE THE
BACKBONE. I
COULD BLUSH.

**YELLOW
SQUAD.**

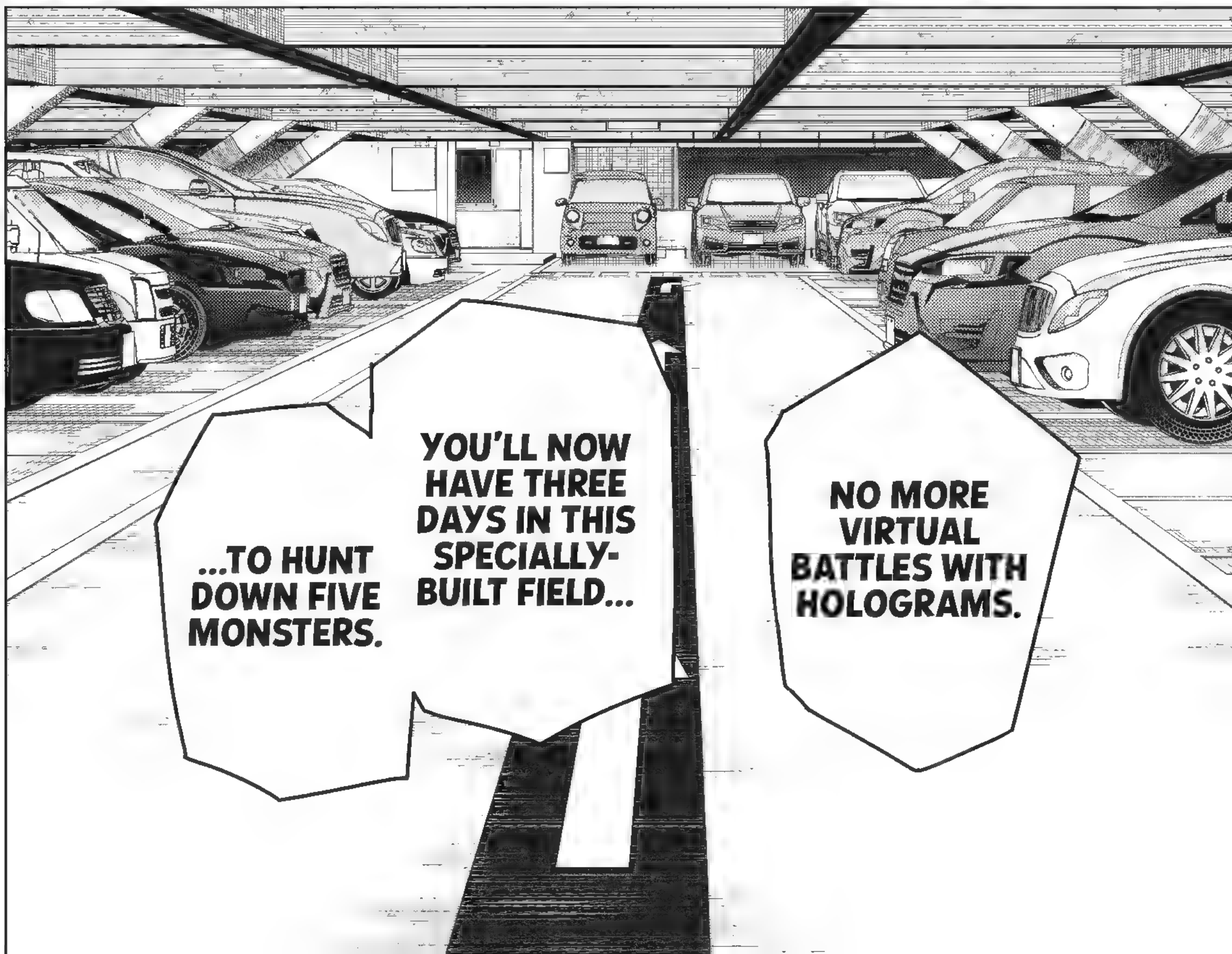
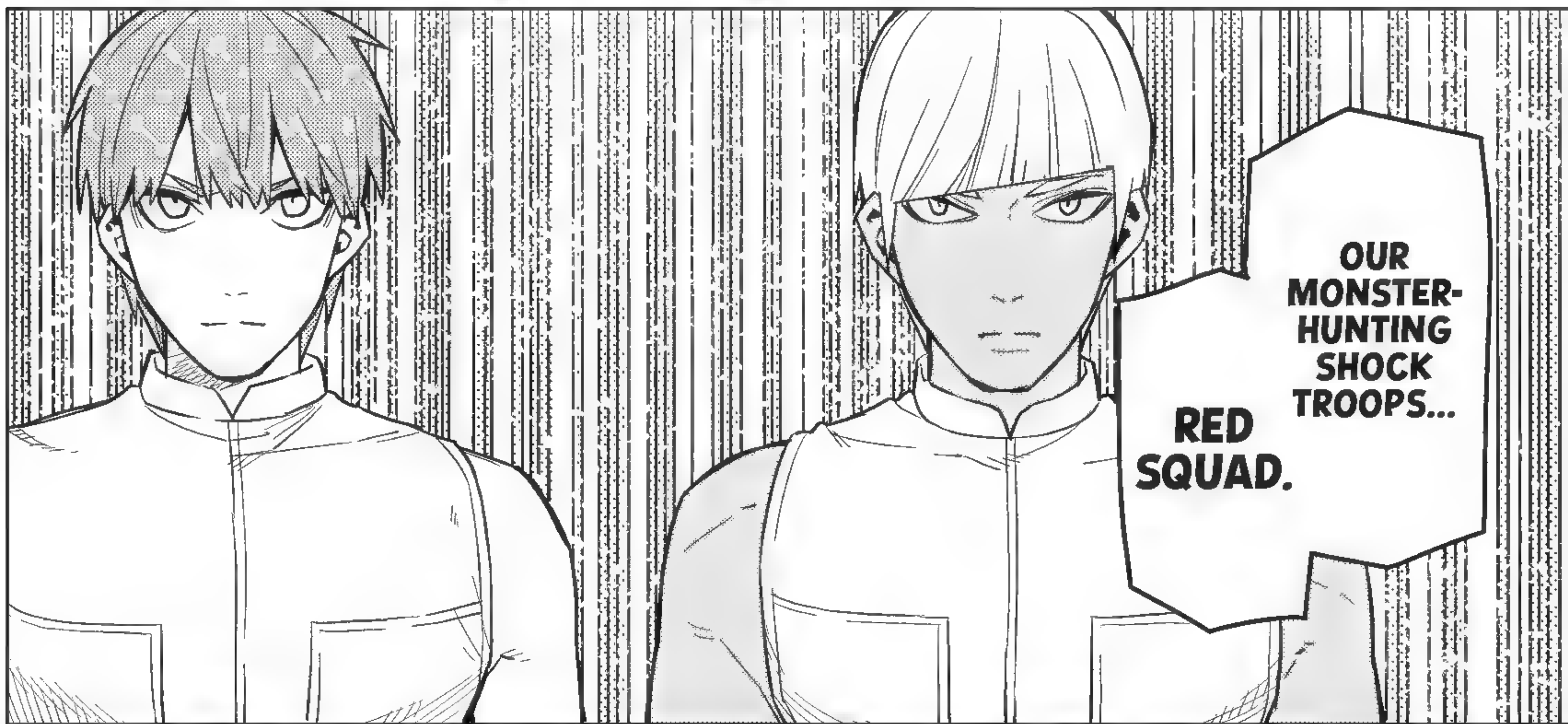
**THE
BRAINS OF THE
OPERATION
WHO LACK
STRENGTH
BUT ACT AS
THE RANGER
FORCE'S
BACKBONE.**



I GET
THIS FAR
ONLY TO
BE PAIRED
WITH YOU
AGAIN?

**BLUE
SQUAD.**

**MANAGERIAL
SPECIALISTS
WHO ARE
BIG PICTURE
THINKERS AND
EXCEL AT CO-
ORDINATING
WITH ALLIES.**





YOU
CANDIDATES
WILL HAVE TO
COOPERATE.

COOPERATE.

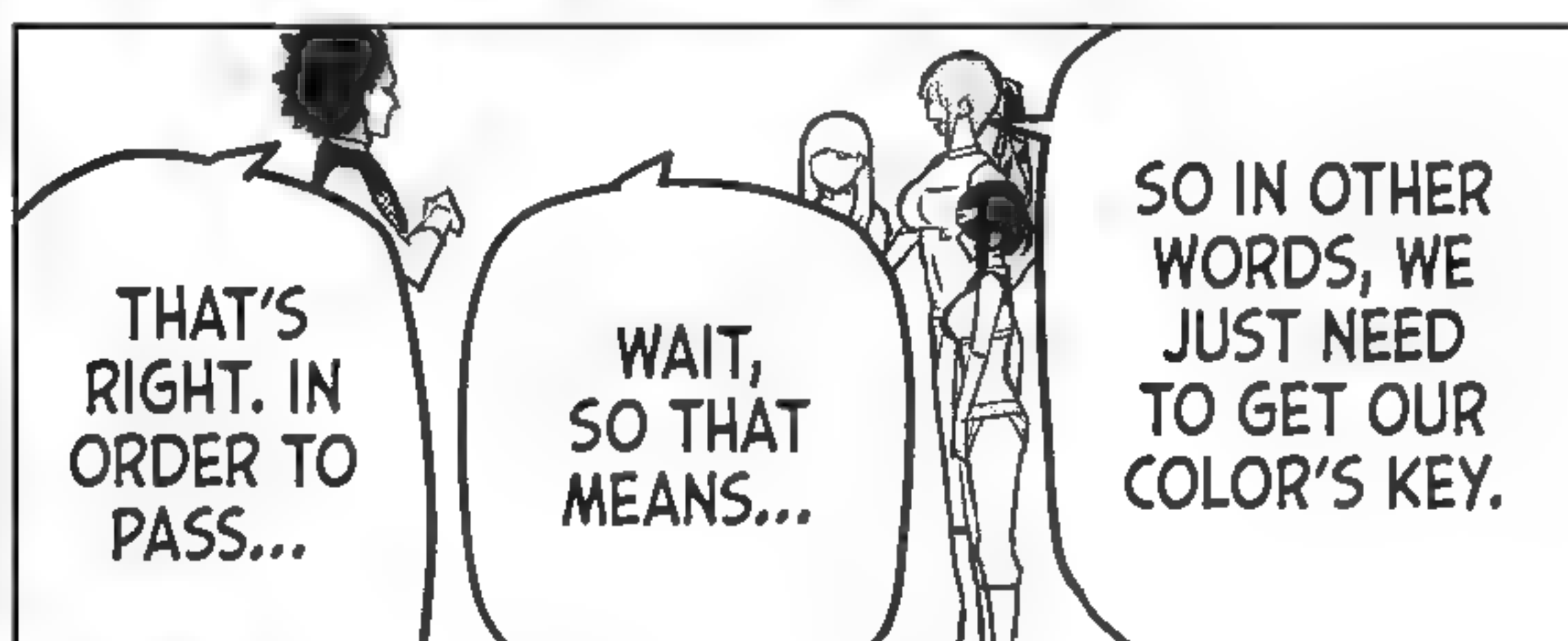


TH-THERE
ARE MONSTERS
HERE?



DON'T WORRY.
THESE ARE ACTIVE-
DUTY RANGERS
PLAYING
MONSTERS.

EACH OF
THEM HAS ONE
OF FIVE KEYS
CORRESPONDING
TO YOUR
COLORS.



THAT'S
RIGHT. IN
ORDER TO
PASS...

WAIT,
SO THAT
MEANS...

SO IN OTHER
WORDS, WE
JUST NEED
TO GET OUR
COLOR'S KEY.



YEAH,
I THINK
IT'D GO
SMOOTHER
IF I WAS
ON MY
OWN.



...SO
THAT'S
HOW IT
IS.

BUT
I DON'T
NEED YOU.
YOU CAN
JUST STAY
OUTTA MY
WAY.

ARE WE
FINALLY
UP?

OOH!

...YOU CAN
DEFEAT
THEM.

OTHERWISE,
THERE IS NO
POSSIBLE
WAY...

YOU NEED
TO WORK
TOGETHER.

REMEM-
BER.

YOU'LL
NOW BE
FIGHTING
A TEAM
BATTLE.

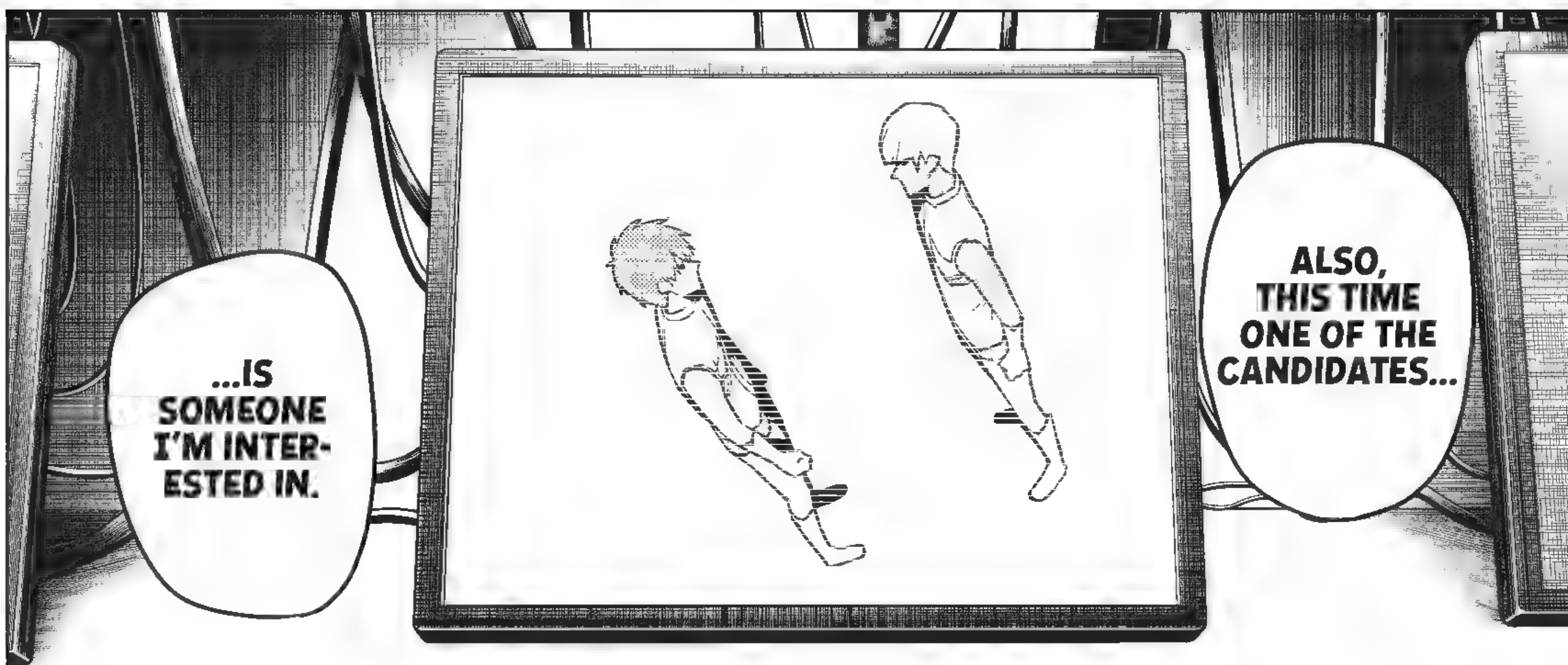
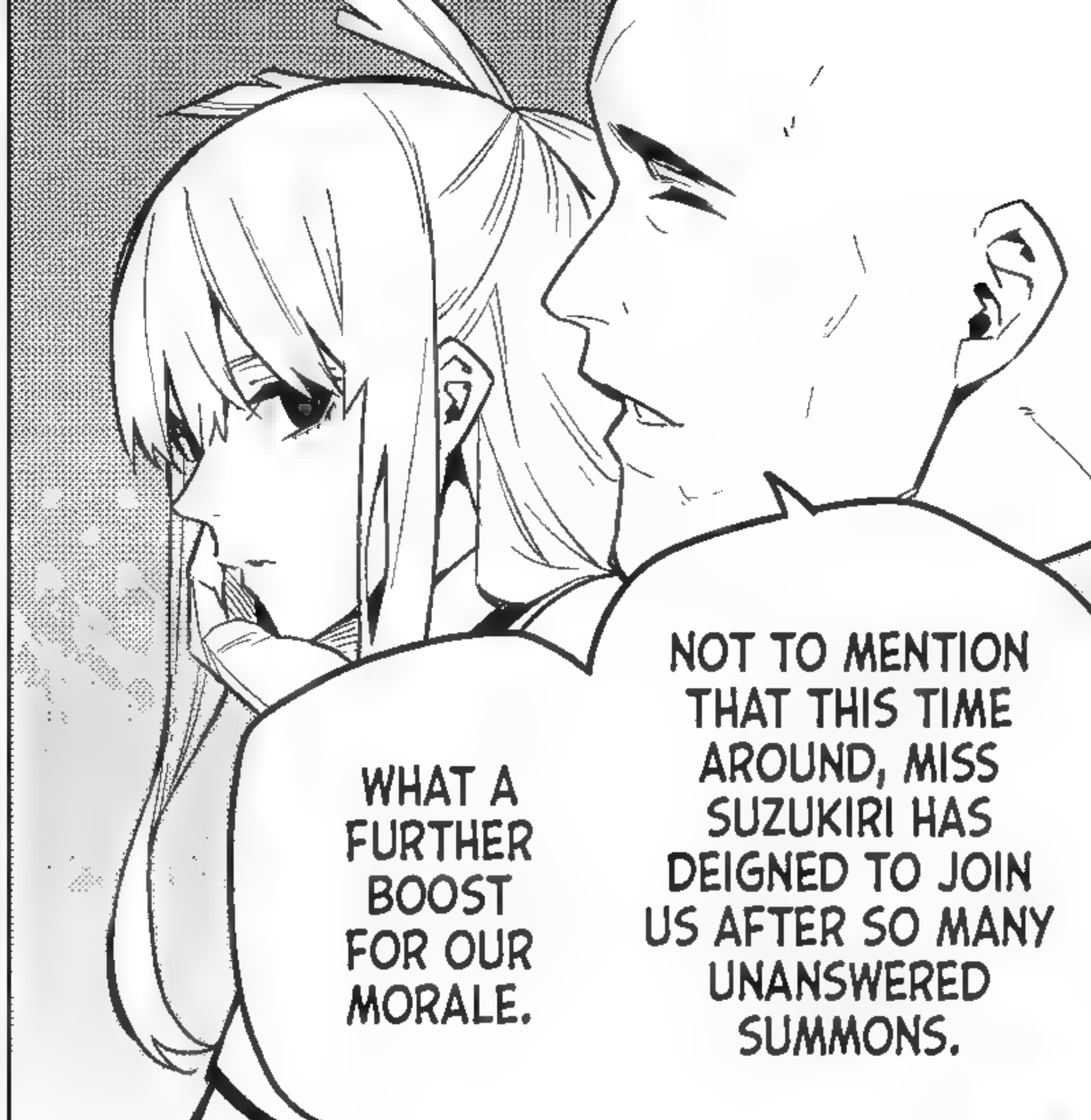
AS
JUNIOR FIRST
RANKS, PART
OF OUR JOB IS
TO HELP SELECT
CANDIDATES.

OH,
DON'T SAY
THAT.

JUST
FLUNK
'EM ALL.

UGH...
WHAT A
PAIN.

LET'S DO
OUR BEST
TO NOT LET
THESE SUPER-
ENTHUSIASTIC
CANDIDATES
OVERSHADOW
US!



Chapter 18:
**THE WHITE DRAGON'S TEST:
VS. THE RED MONSTER I**



THIS MAKES
ALL OF THE
JUNIOR FIRST
RANKS.

I'M
SURPRISED
YOU CAME,
SUZUKIRI-
CHAN.



THIS
IS SUCH
A PAIN IN
THE ASS!

WHAT A
PAIN!

WHY
DON'T WE
GO AND
TAKE OUR
PLACES?

COME NOW,
MISS HISUI.
LET'S GIVE
THIS YEAR'S
EXAM OUR
BEST AS WE
ALWAYS DO.



GREEN
SQUADRON
DOESN'T
INTEND ON
INCREASING
ITS NUMBERS
ANY FURTHER,
EITHER.

I DON'T
HAVE TIME
TO WASTE
ON A
BUNCH OF
COLORLESS
RECRUITS.

HEH. YOU
MIGHT BE A
LITTLE TOO
YOUNG TO
UNDERSTAND,
KOMACHI-
CHAN.

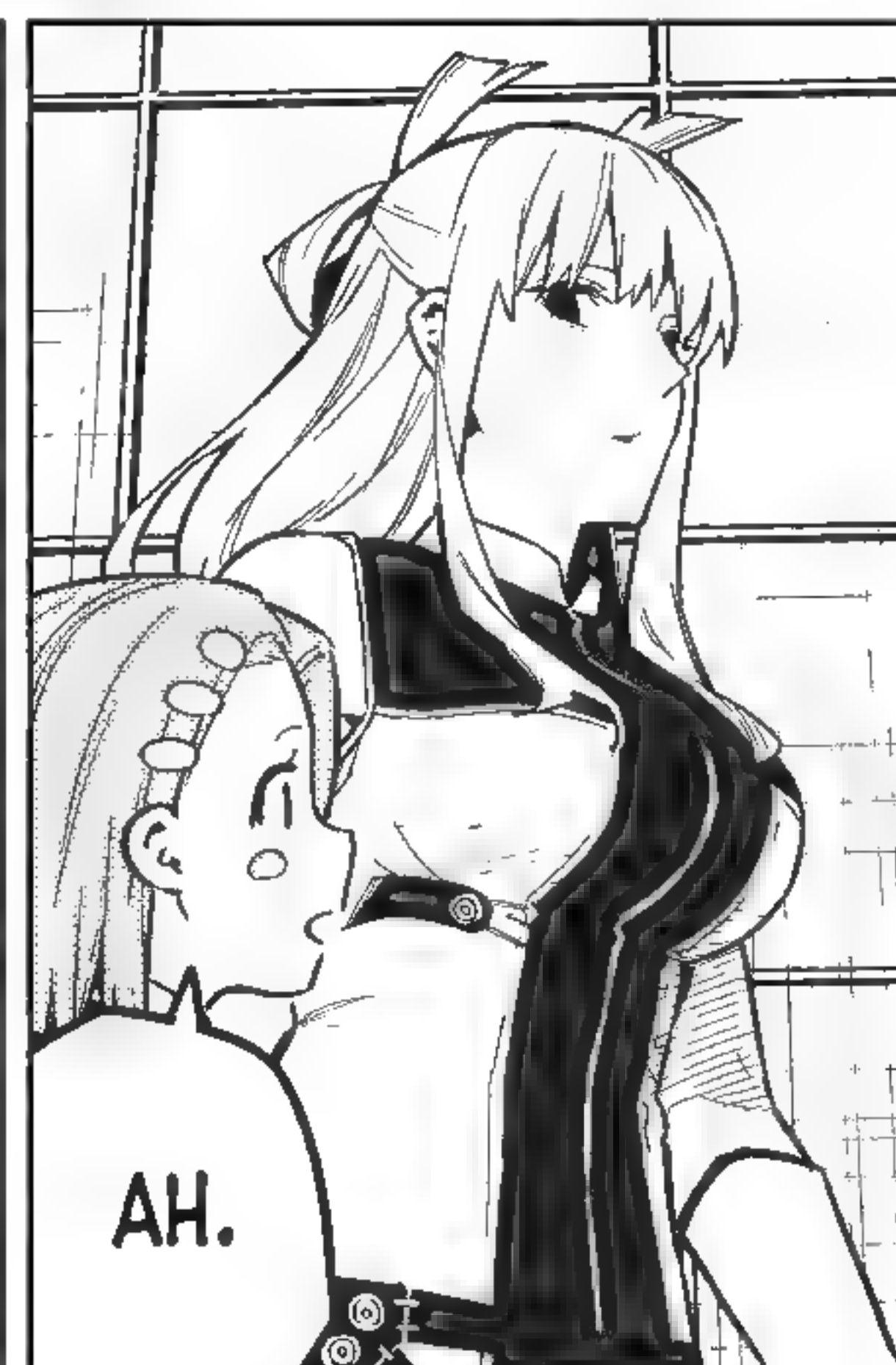
I-IS THIS...
A GROWN-
UP KIND OF
THING?



HUH?

IT'S TOO
BAD ABOUT
HIMURA-KUN.

I THOUGHT
HE WAS DOING
PRETTY WELL
FOR HIMSELF.

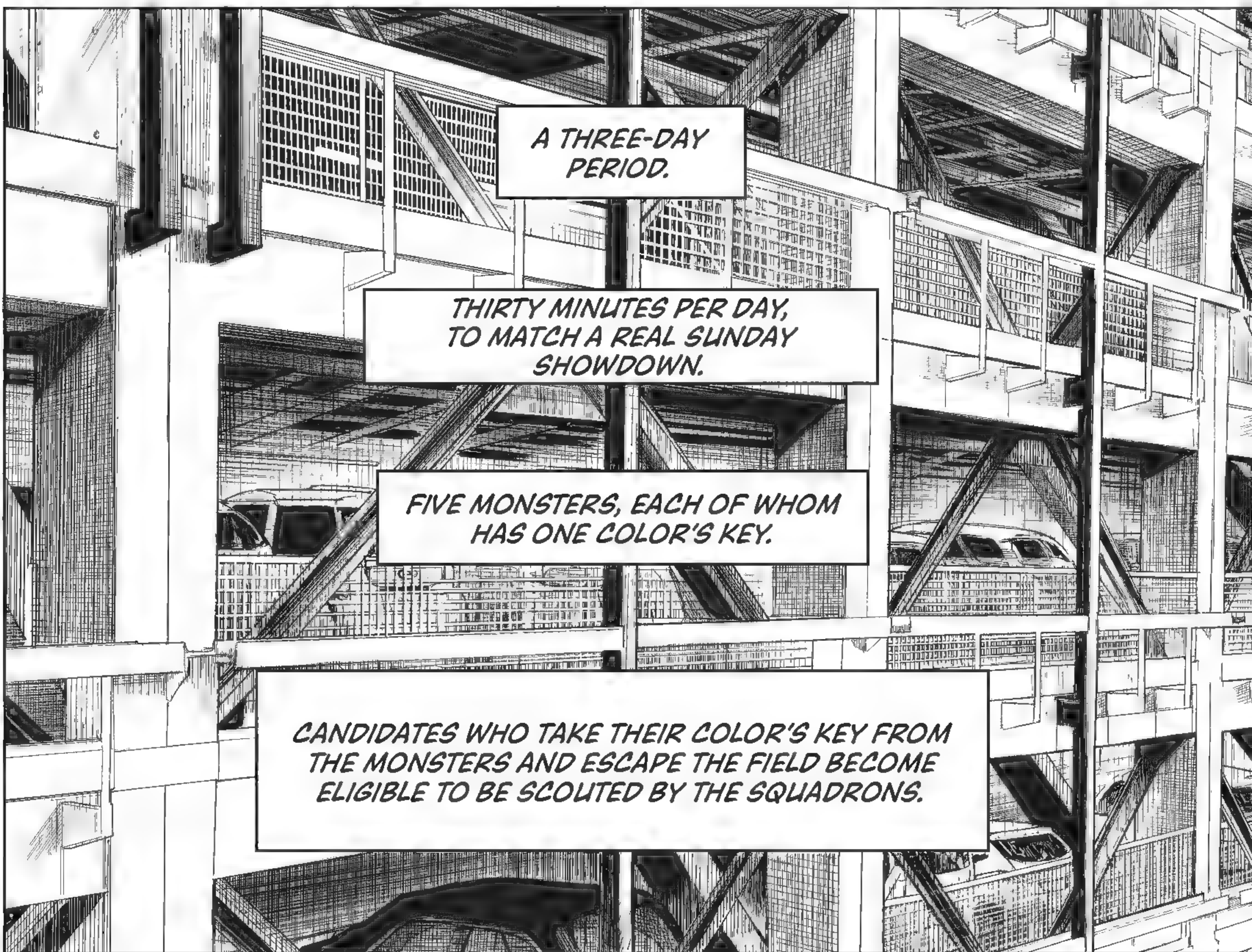


AH.



...SUBSTITUTE.

ANYWAY,
LET'S
DO OUR
BEST...



A THREE-DAY
PERIOD.

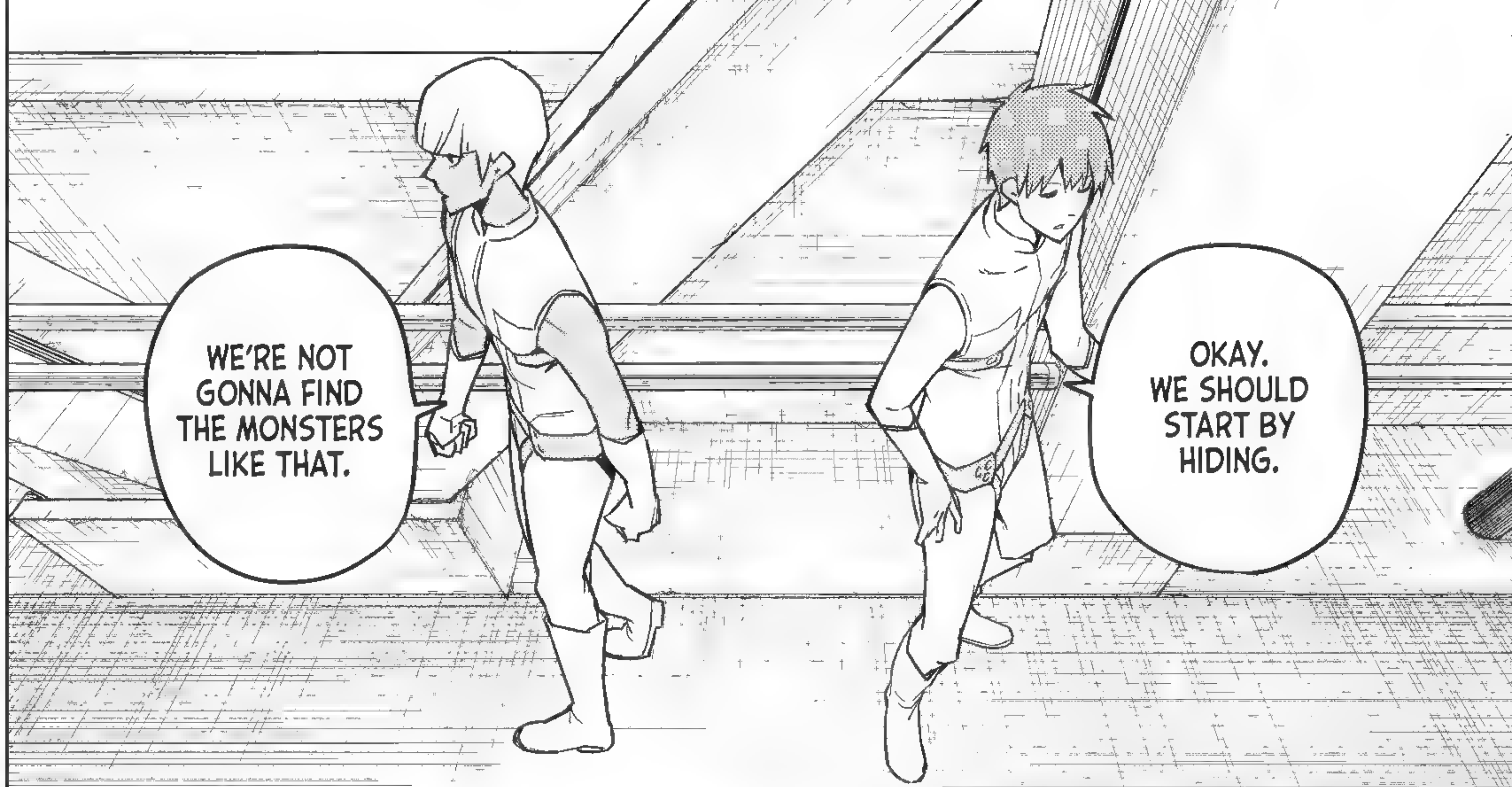
THIRTY MINUTES PER DAY,
TO MATCH A REAL SUNDAY
SHOWDOWN.

FIVE MONSTERS, EACH OF WHOM
HAS ONE COLOR'S KEY.

CANDIDATES WHO TAKE THEIR COLOR'S KEY FROM
THE MONSTERS AND ESCAPE THE FIELD BECOME
ELIGIBLE TO BE SCOUTED BY THE SQUADRONS.

WHITE DRAGON NEST'S FINAL EXAM.
最終合戦白龍の巣





WE'RE NOT
GONNA FIND
THE MONSTERS
LIKE THAT.

OKAY.
WE SHOULD
START BY
HIDING.

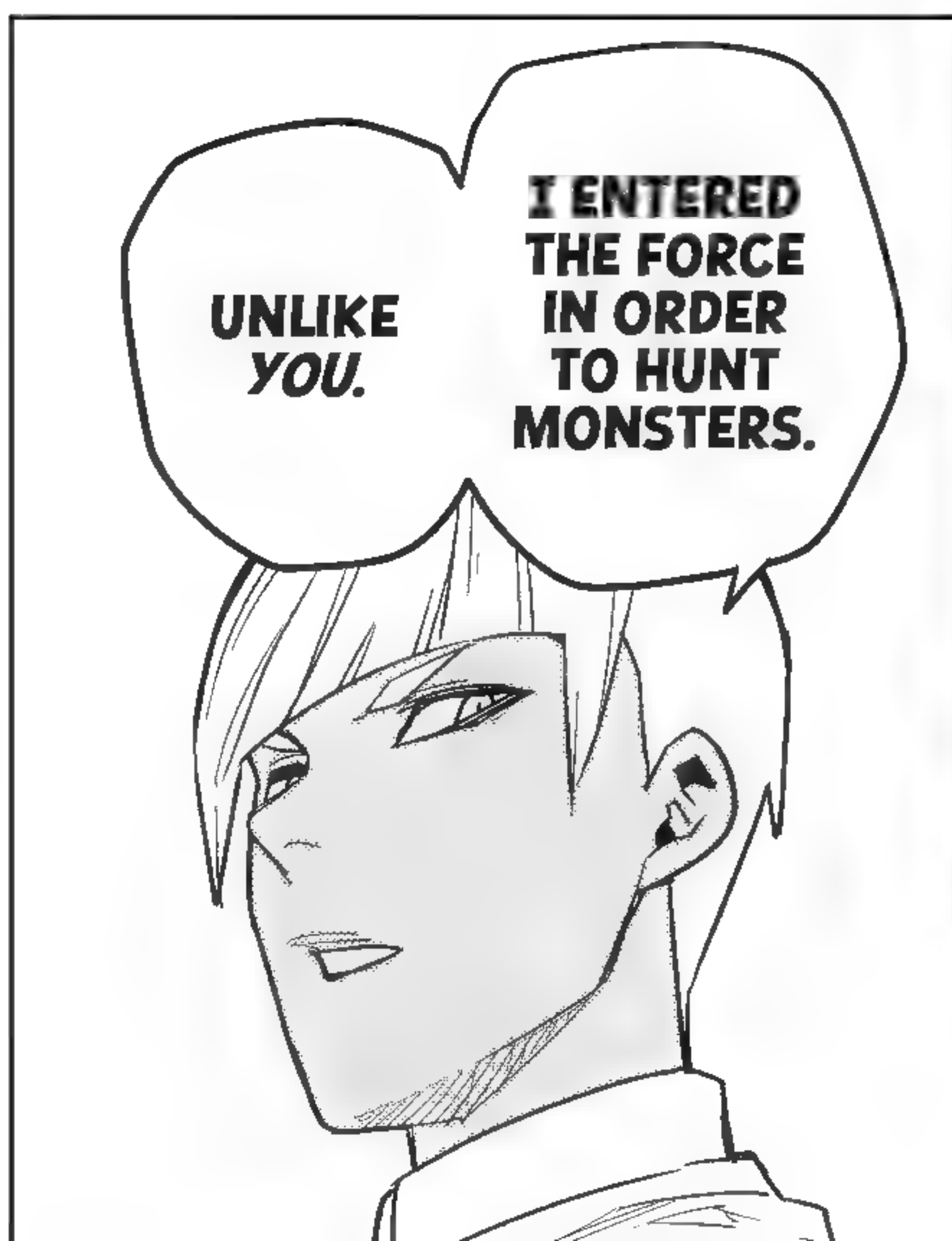


WHAT KIND OF
RANGER SNEAKS
AROUND MONSTERS?
WE'RE TAKING
THEM HEAD-ON.

DO YOU
NOT GET IT?
THE IDEA IS
TO AMBUSH
THEM!

WE'RE THE
HUNTERS HERE.
WE CAN'T WIN
IF WE HIDE,
CAN WE?

DID YOU HEAR
ME? WE HAVE
THREE DAYS. WE
SHOULD START
BY HIDING!



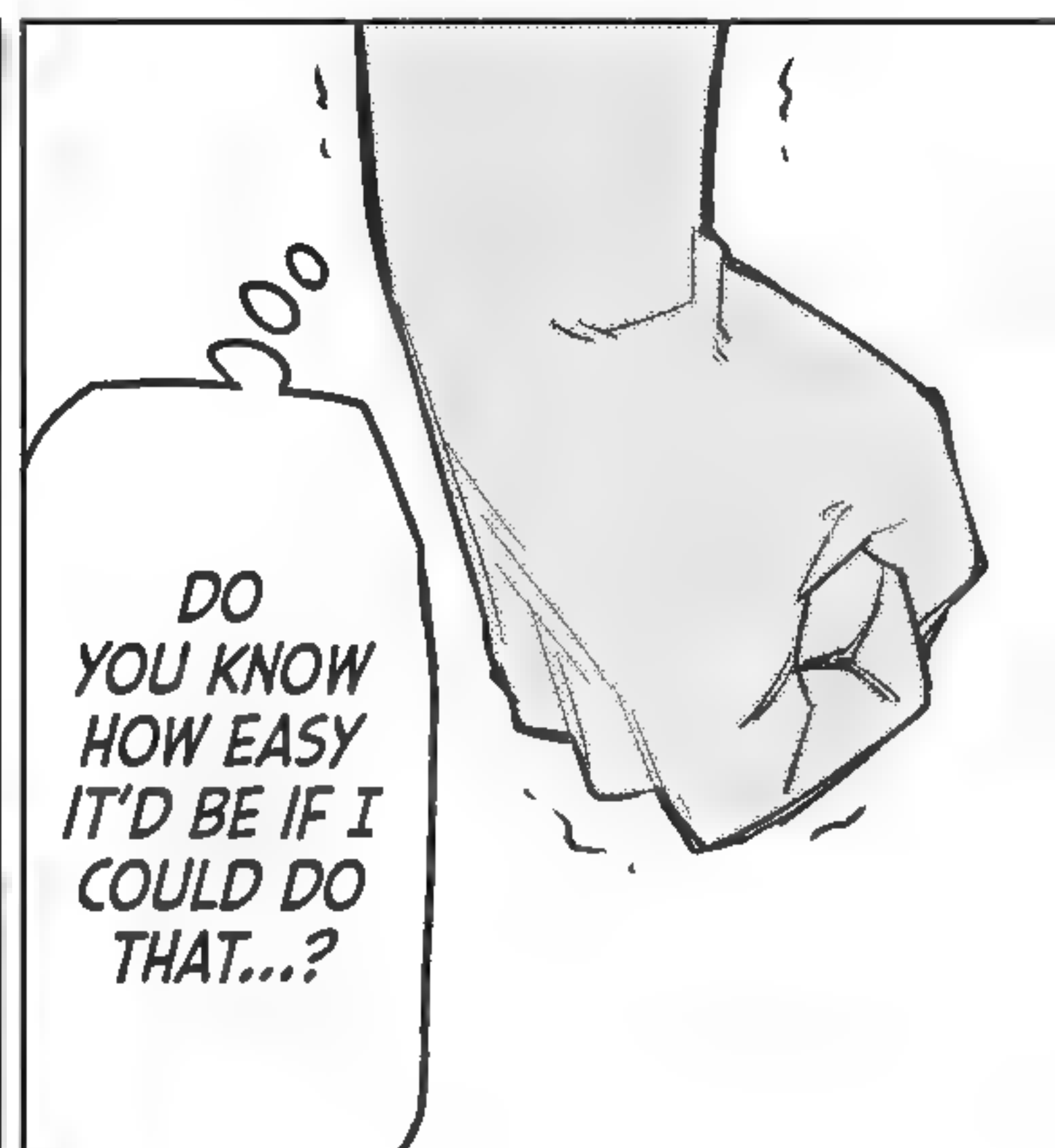
UNLIKE
YOU.

I ENTERED
THE FORCE
IN ORDER
TO HUNT
MONSTERS.



IT'S OVER
FOR ME IF I
TAKE JUST
ONE HIT.

I HAVE TO
BE CAREFUL
WHETHER
I WANT TO
OR NOT.



DO
YOU KNOW
HOW EASY
IT'D BE IF I
COULD DO
THAT...?

I'M JUST GOING TO HAVE TO STAY CALM.

NO, THE RANGER FORCE MUST BE FULL OF GUYS LIKE THIS.

AM I REALLY GONNA HAVE TO PUT UP WITH HIM FOR THREE WHOLE DAYS?

...IN A DIFFERENT WAY FROM HIBIKI.

THIS GUY REALLY KNOWS HOW TO PISS ME OFF.

JUST WATCH. I'LL ADAPT SO I CAN COME OUT ON TOP!

WE'RE A TEAM NOW, WHETHER I LIKE IT OR NOT.

I WAS ABLE TO WORK WELL WITH SAKURAMA IN THE END.

ISN'T THAT WHAT THE INSTRUCTOR SAID? THAT WE'LL NEED TO COOPERATE?

WELL, I THINK WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO STICK TOGETHER HERE.

THE MONSTERS ARE BEING PLAYED BY ACTIVE-DUTY RANGERS.

OH YEAH? THEN LET ME KNOW IF YOU FIND THEM.

LET'S START BY FINDING THE RED SQUAD MONSTER.

OKAY THEN, SHION-KUN.



THIS
EXAM ISN'T
WORTHY
OF MY
ATTENTION.

I'VE
GOT MY
EYE ON
WHAT
COMES
NEXT.



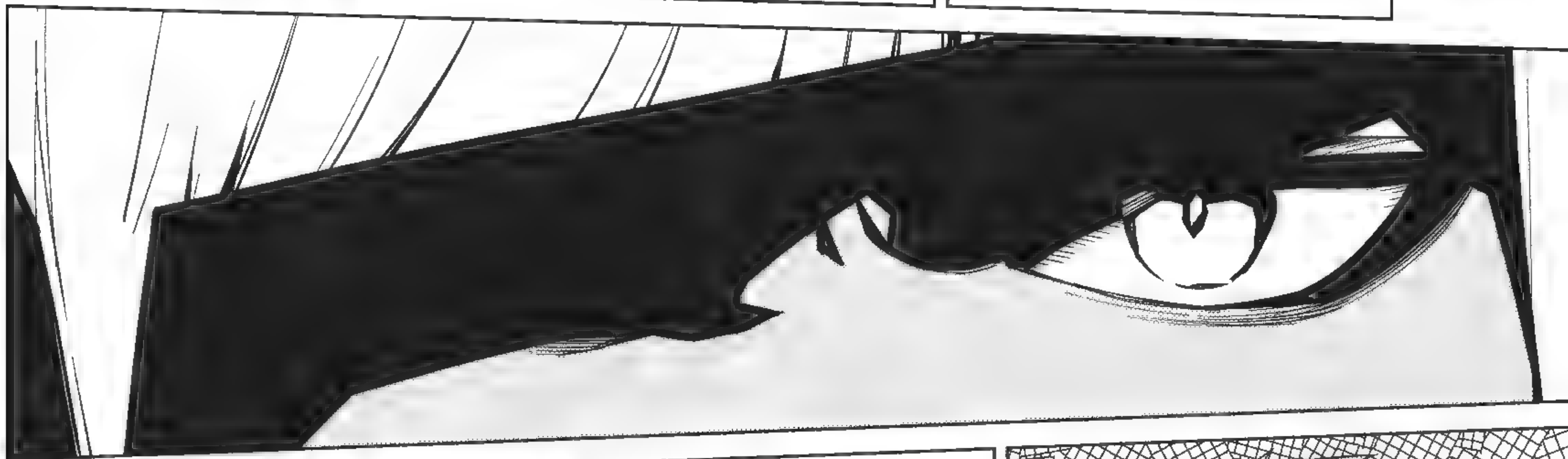
IF YOU
AREN'T
CONFIDENT
IN YOUR OWN
ABILITIES,
THEN STAND
DOWN.

THIS IS
A TEST TO
BECOME AN
ACTIVE-DUTY
RANGER
LIKE THEM,
RIGHT?



YOU WANT
EVERYONE TO
SCREAM AND
FAWN OVER YOU
AT THE SUNDAY
SHOWDOWN...?

OH, SO
ARE YOU
ONE OF
THOSE
TYPES?



SHUT UP
FOR A
SECOND.

FOUND
ONE.



VERY...
HEALTHY,
YOU
COULD
SAY...

A-ANYWAY,
I THINK
THAT'S A
GREAT
REASON
TO BE
MOTIVATED.



SHIT.

PLAY NICE,
PLAY NICE...



THAT SAVES
US THE
TROUBLE OF
SEARCHING.

THERE'S A
MONSTER.



UGH.

YELLOW,
HUH?



SHE'S
PLAYING
ONE OF THE
MONSTERS?!

YUMEKO
SUZUKIRI...!

WHAT?

YOU'RE
KIDDING.

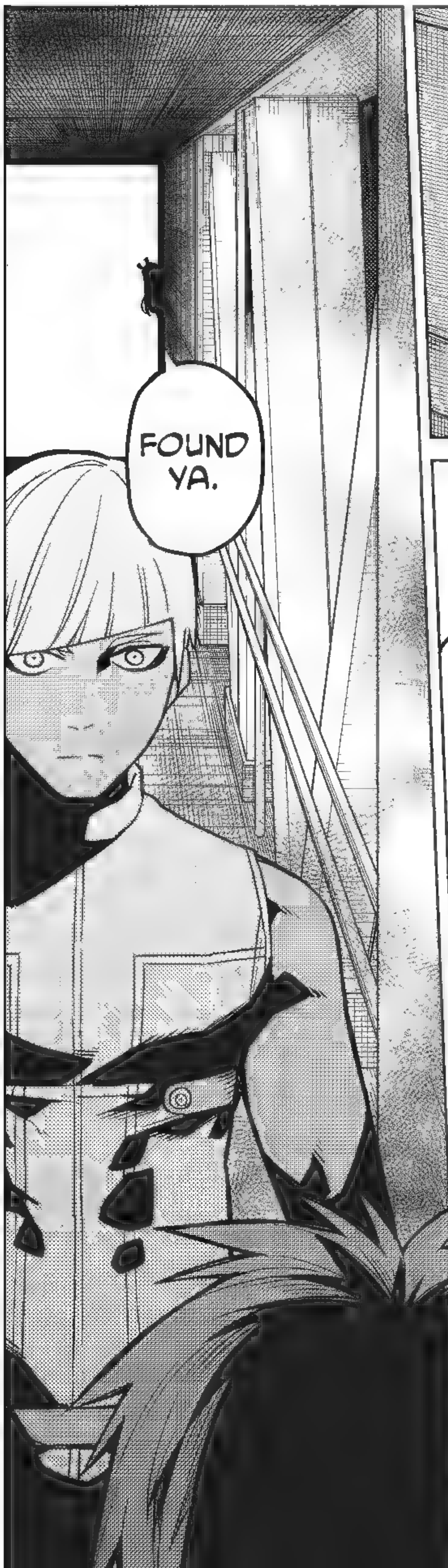


WE
SHOULD DO
THAT!

YES!
LET'S!

WANT TO GO
TO ANOTHER
FLOOR BEFORE
SHE PICKS A
FIGHT?

SOUNDS LIKE
THEY ATTACK
EVERYONE
INSTEAD OF
SPECIFIC
TARGETS.



FOUND
YA.



IT'S A GOOD
THING SHE'S
YELLOW
SQUAD'S
TARGET...

IT'S GONNA
BE ANNOYING
IF THAT PSYCHO
FINDS OUT THAT
I'M STILL ALIVE.



WE MIGHT
AS WELL
GET IT.

ACTUAL-
LY...

YELLOW'S
KEY.



SHION-
KUN?

?



SHE'S
SERIOUSLY
DANGEROUS,
OKAY?

STOP BEING
RIDICULOUS!
LET'S GO
ALREADY!



WHAT
WOULD BE
THE POINT
IN THAT?!

ARE YOU
IN YOUR
RIGHT
MIND?!

WHAA?!



OH, YOU'RE NOT YELLOW SQUAD?

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO YOU ARE. I'M A WICKED MONSTER WHO ATTACKS ANYONE.

SORRY, THOUGH.

YOU'D BETTER BE SURE TO PUNISH ME!

...GH!



SAKURAMA-KUN? LET ME JOIN IN IF YOU TWO ARE FIGHTING.

I'LL TAKE YOU BOTH ON.

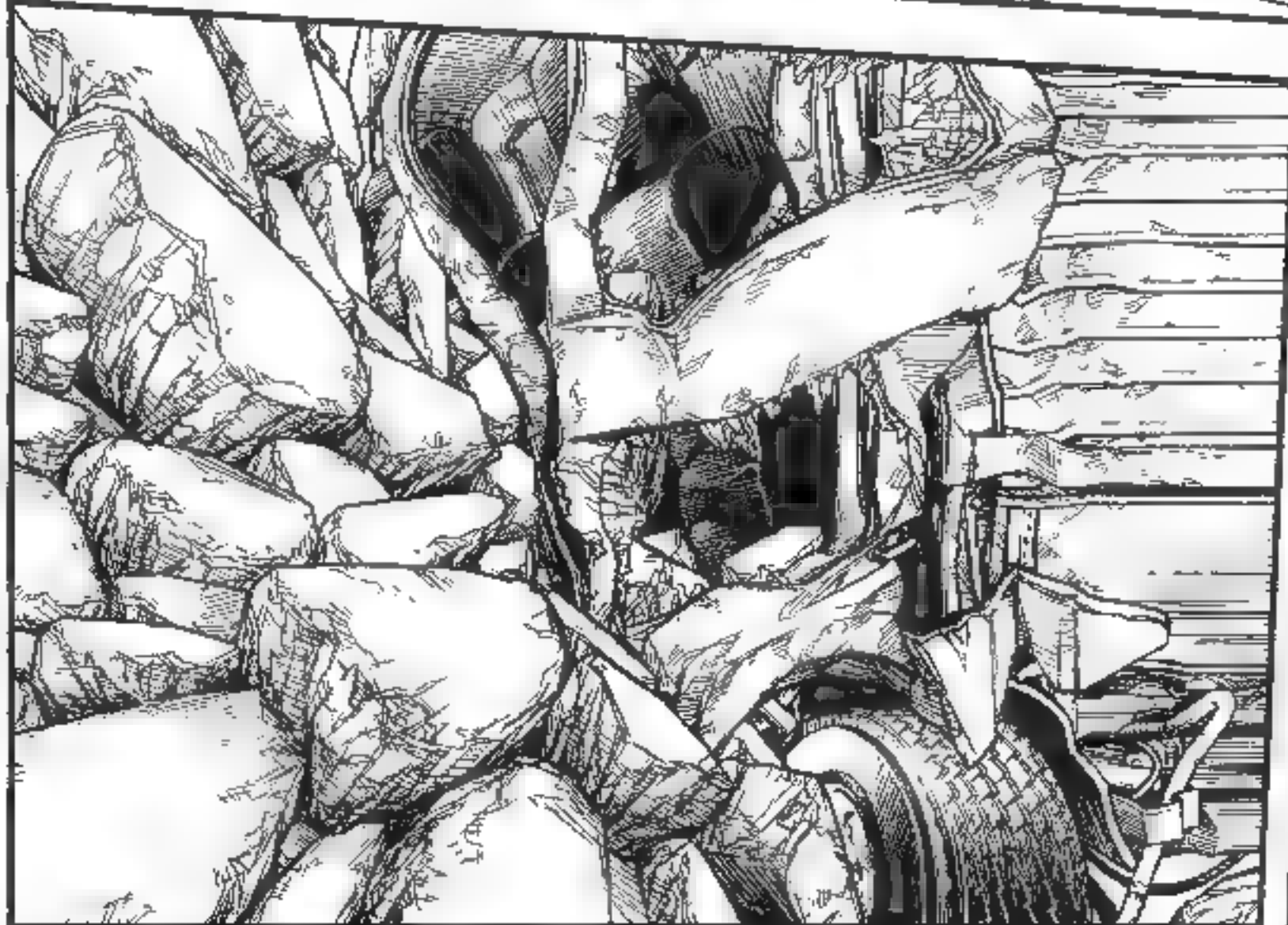
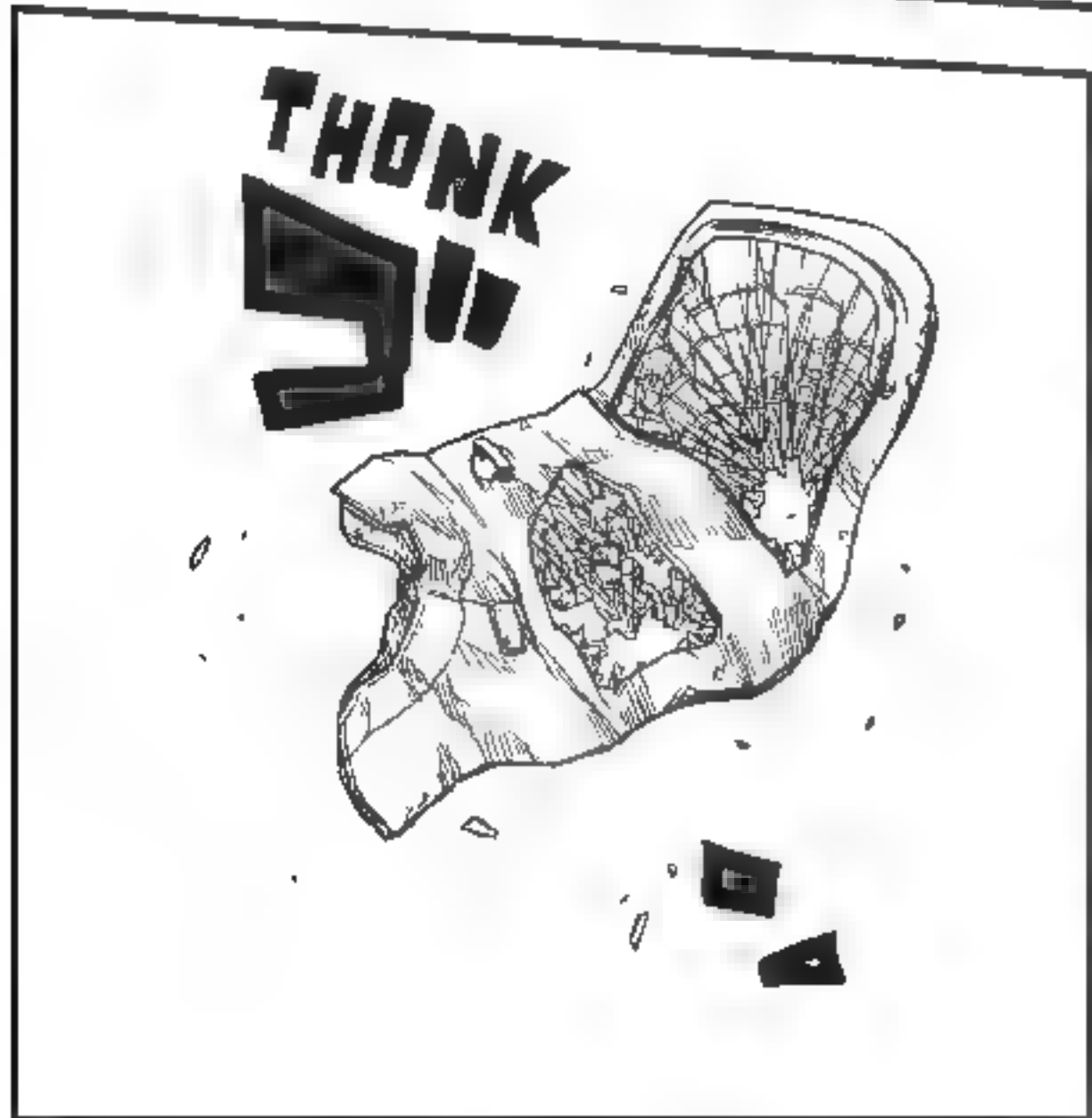


WHY'D YOU JUST PUSH ME?!

YOU WANTED TO FIGHT HER, RIGHT? THEN GO AHEAD, BE MY GUEST!



V
R
R
M





TAKING
HALF-MEASURES
IS JUST A WASTE
OF TIME.

LET'S
HANDLE
THIS IN AN
EFFICIENT
WAY.



BUT DIDN'T
THAT KILL
HER...?



BUT
ISN'T THIS
TAKING IT
TOO FAR...?

WHOA!

IT REALLY
MOVES.

YOU DO
REALIZE
...

...THAT
THE EXAM
HAS BEGUN,
RIGHT?



BUT
I THINK
WE JUST
SHOWED
HER...

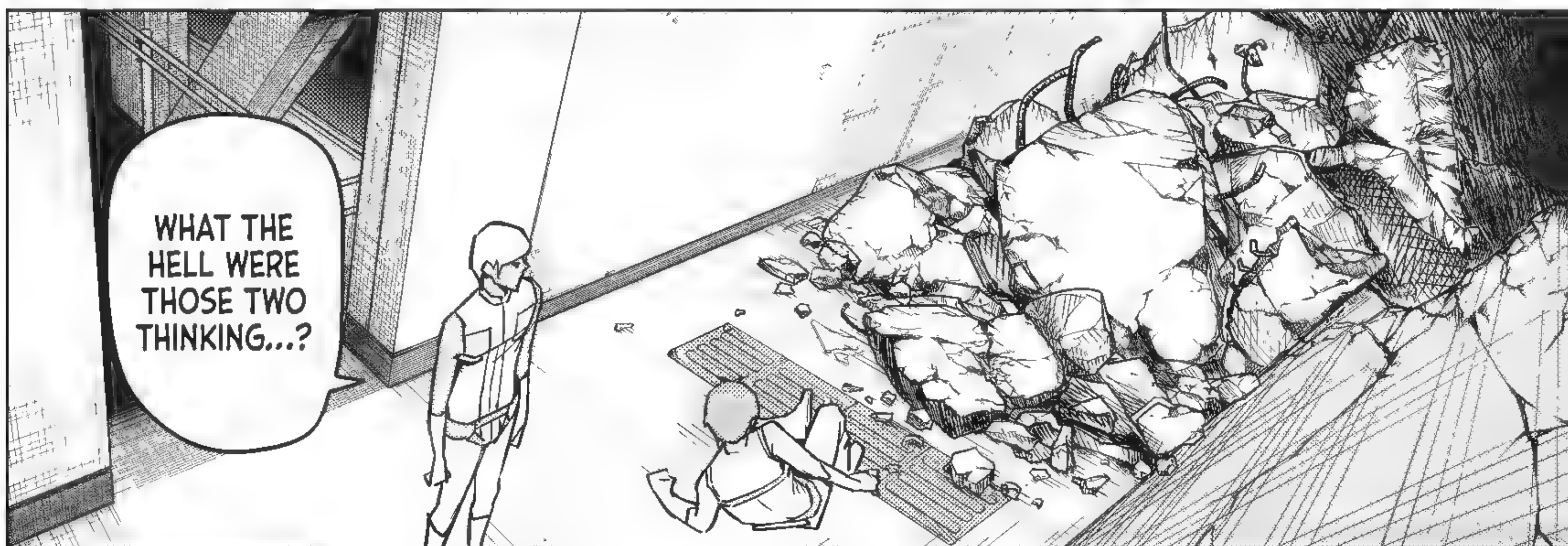
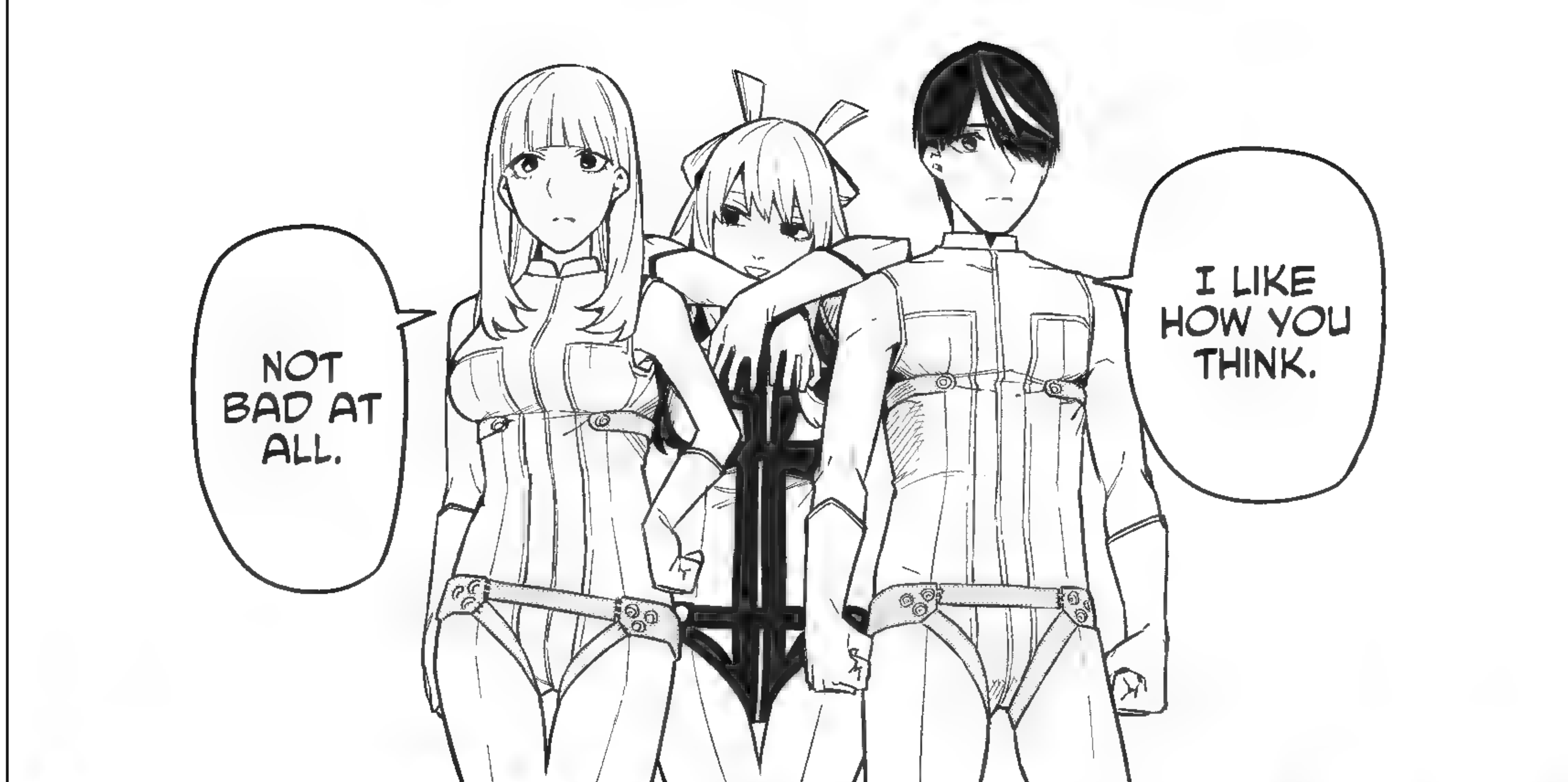
SHE
PROBABLY
THOUGHT THIS
EXAM WOULD
BE A NICE
DISTRACTION.

IT'S HER
FAULT FOR
GIVING US AN
OPENING.



...EXACTLY
HOW MUCH
MALICE WE
COLORLESS
RANGERS
HAVE...

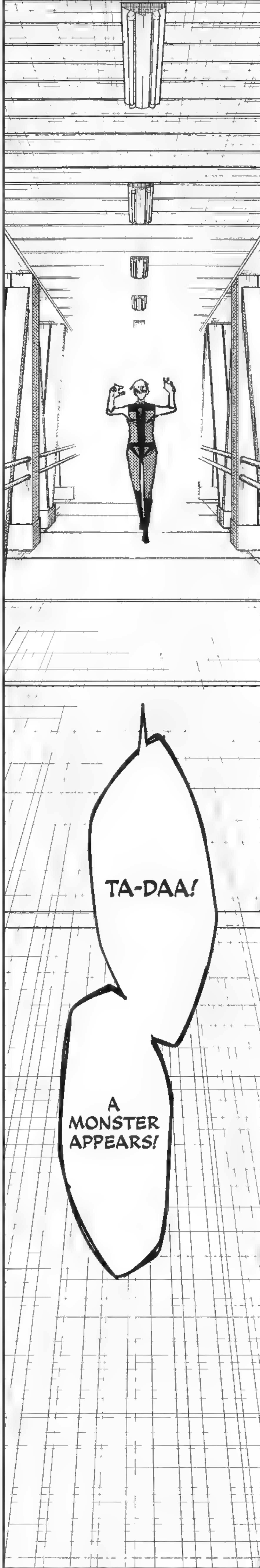
...AFTER
BEING
TREATED
LIKE DIRT
FOR ALL
THIS TIME.





YOU
REVOLTING
RANGERS...

...BETTER BE
PREPARED!

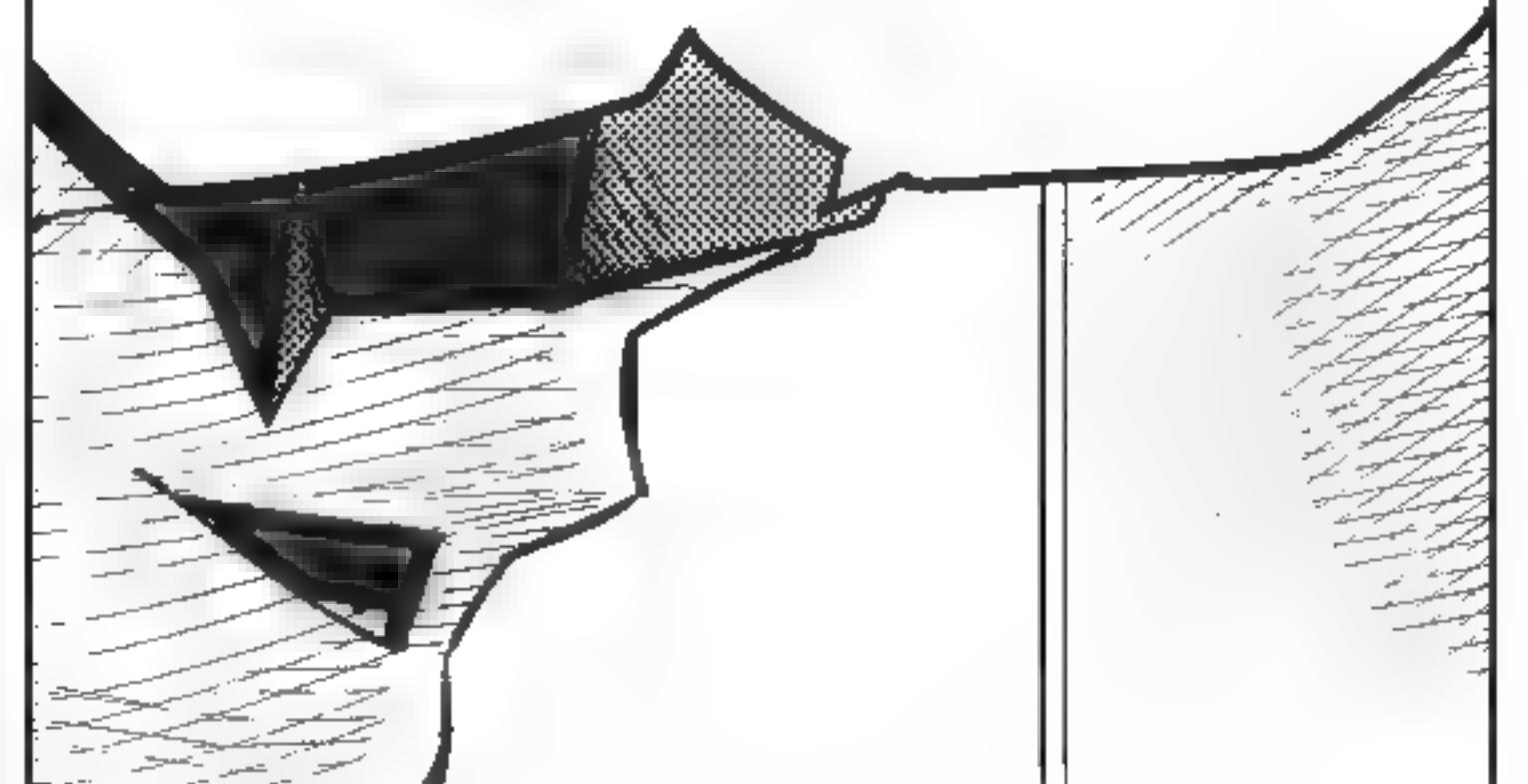


TA-DAA!

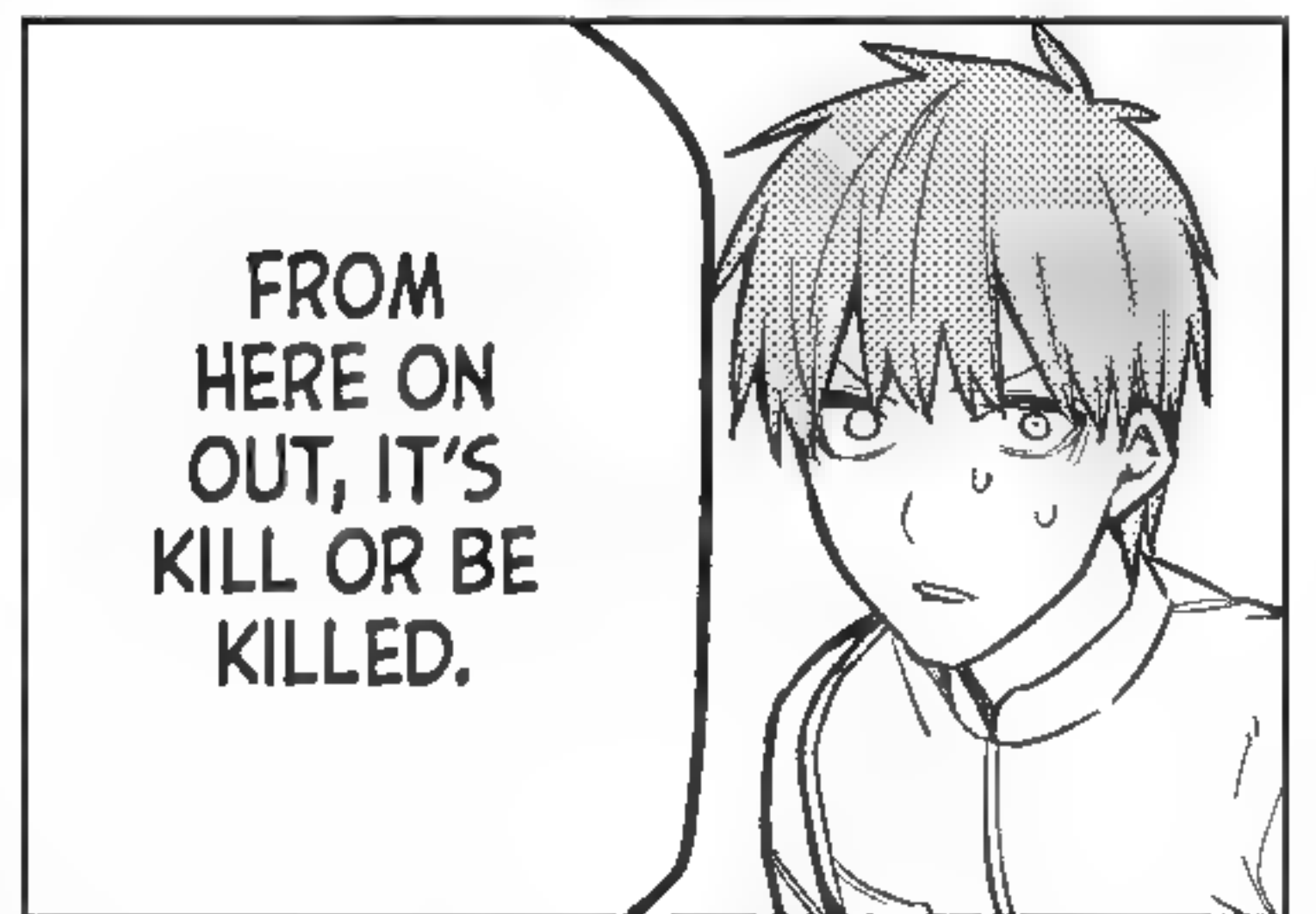
A
MONSTER
APPEARS!

YOU
NEED TO
ADAPT TO
THE EVER-
CHANGING
STATE OF A
BATTLE.

DO YOU THINK A
MEMBER OF THE
RANGER FORCE
CAN AFFORD TO
SAY SOMETHING
THAT SOFT?



IF IT'S A
HALF-HEARTED
BATTLE YOU
WANT, GIVE
UP NOW.



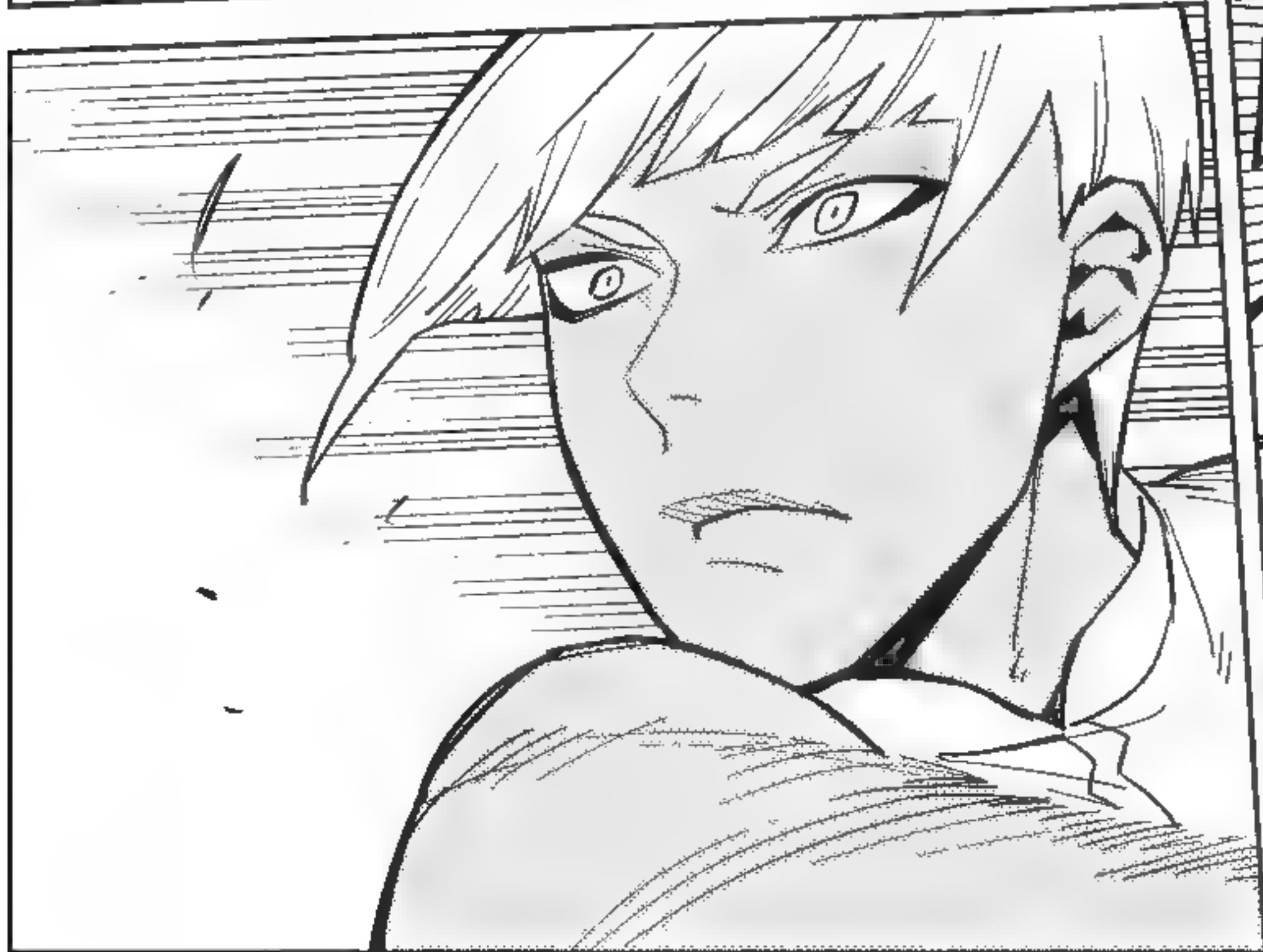
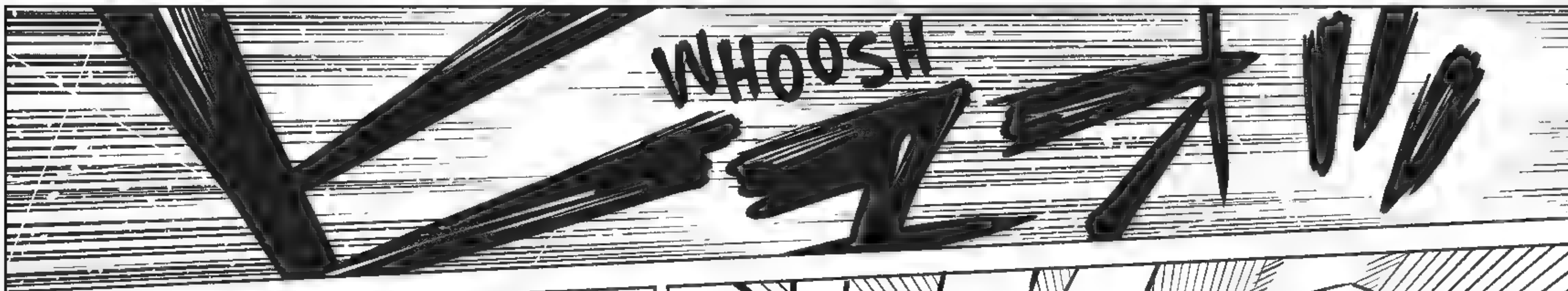
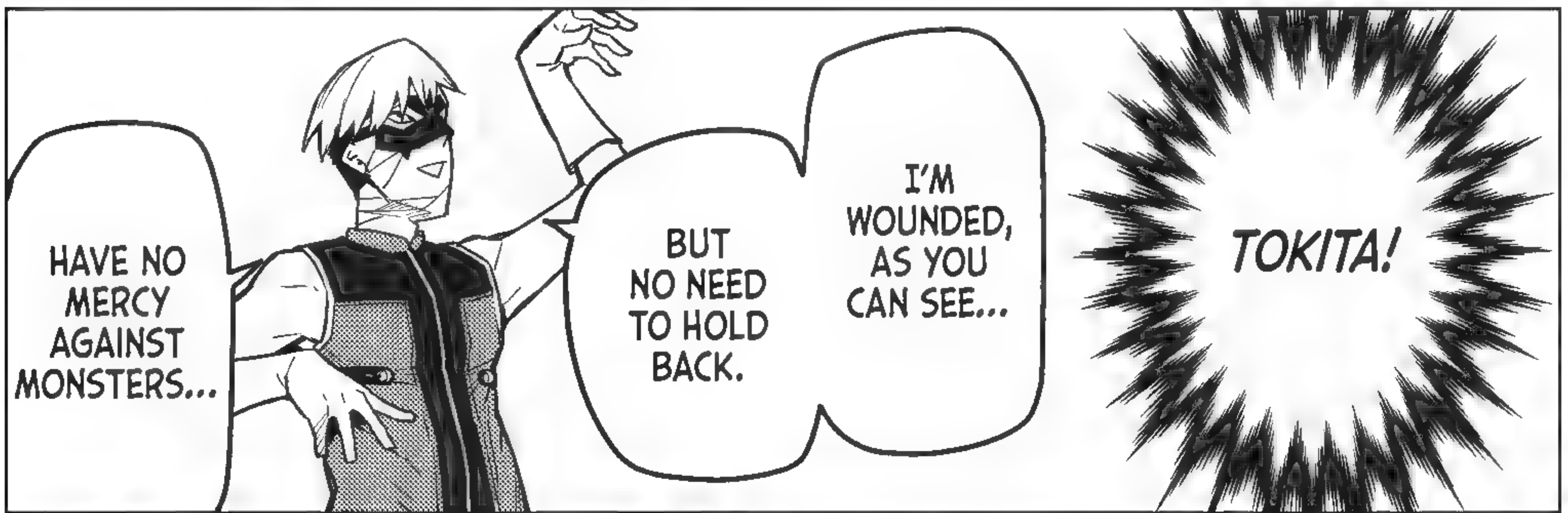
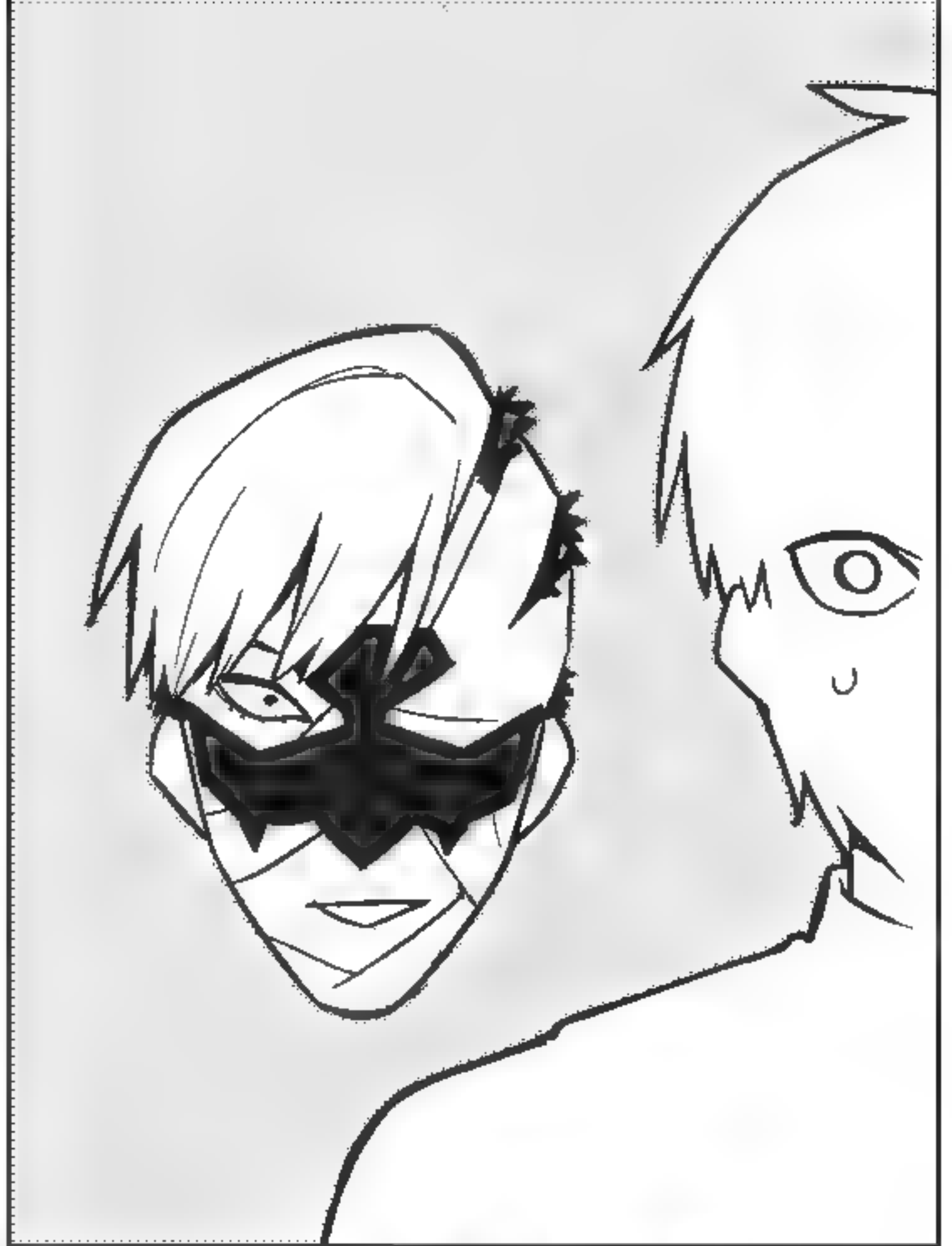
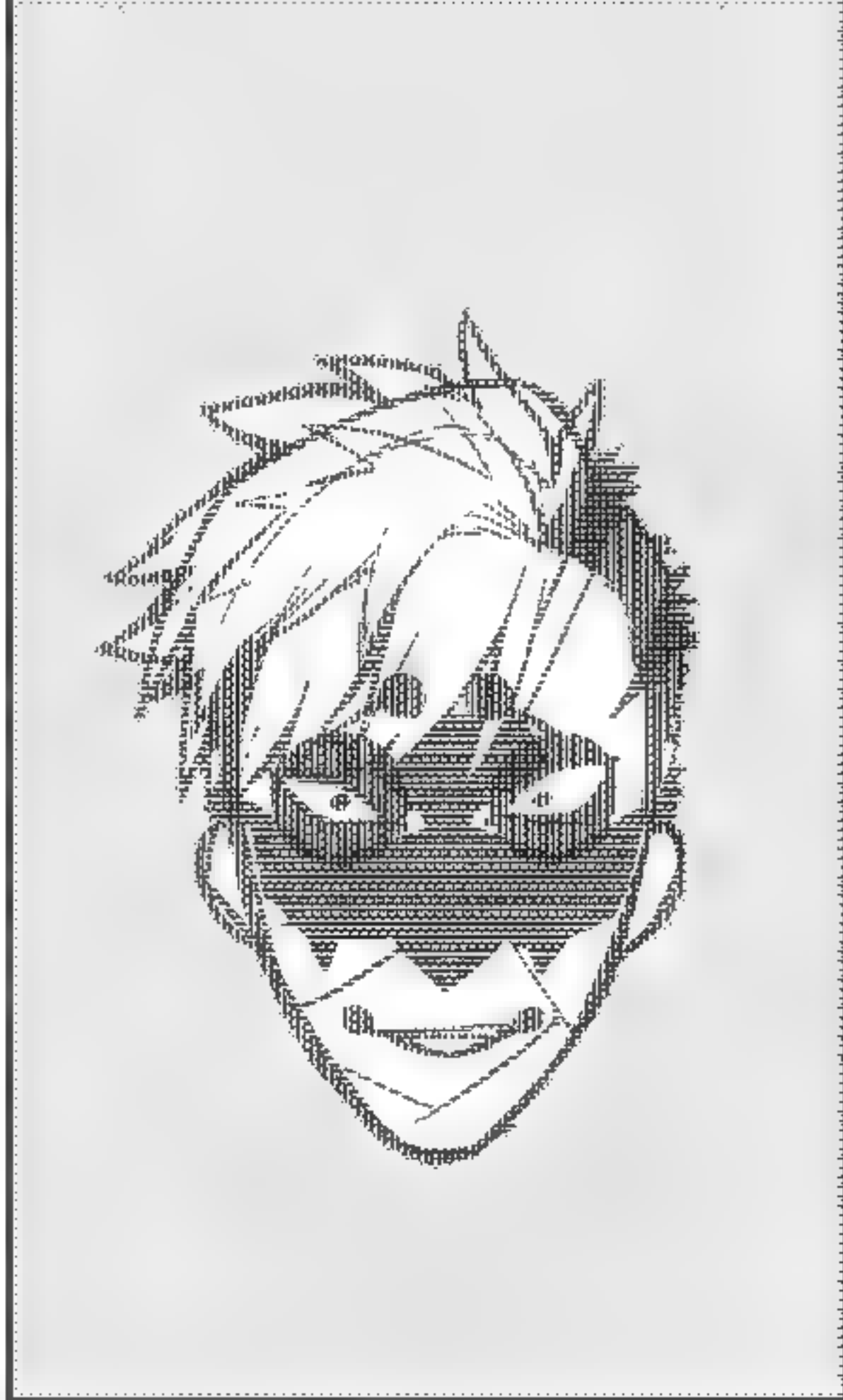
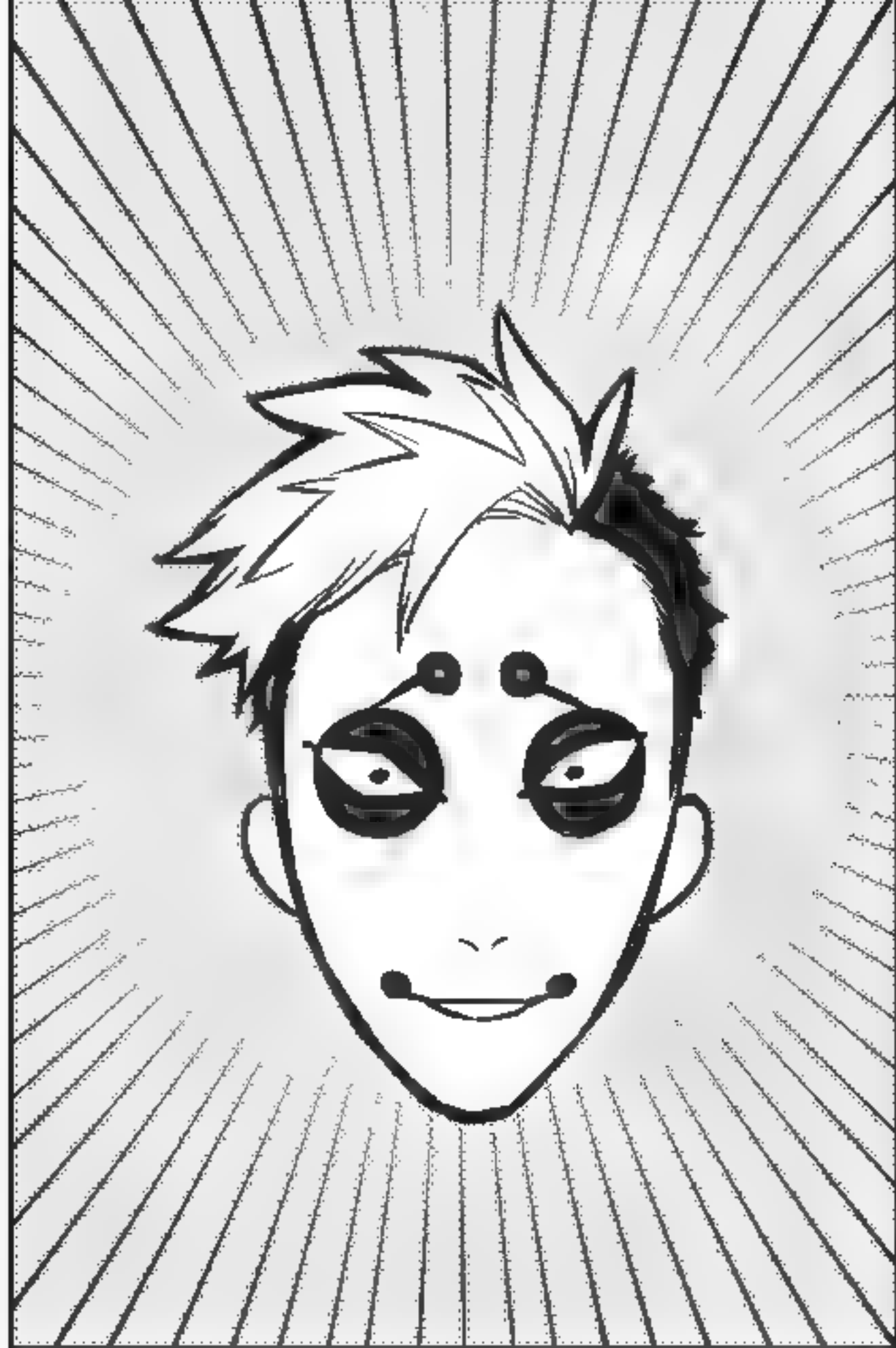
FROM
HERE ON
OUT, IT'S
KILL OR BE
KILLED.



SO
HE'S...

SO...
YOU'RE OUR
OPPONENT.

...RED
SQUAD.





AH!

AH!

THWAK

THWAK

THWAK



WHERE'S
THE KEY?

THP
BT

I'M NOT
TELLING
YOU! I'M A
MONSTER!



I'VE
BEATEN
HIM ONCE
BEFORE.

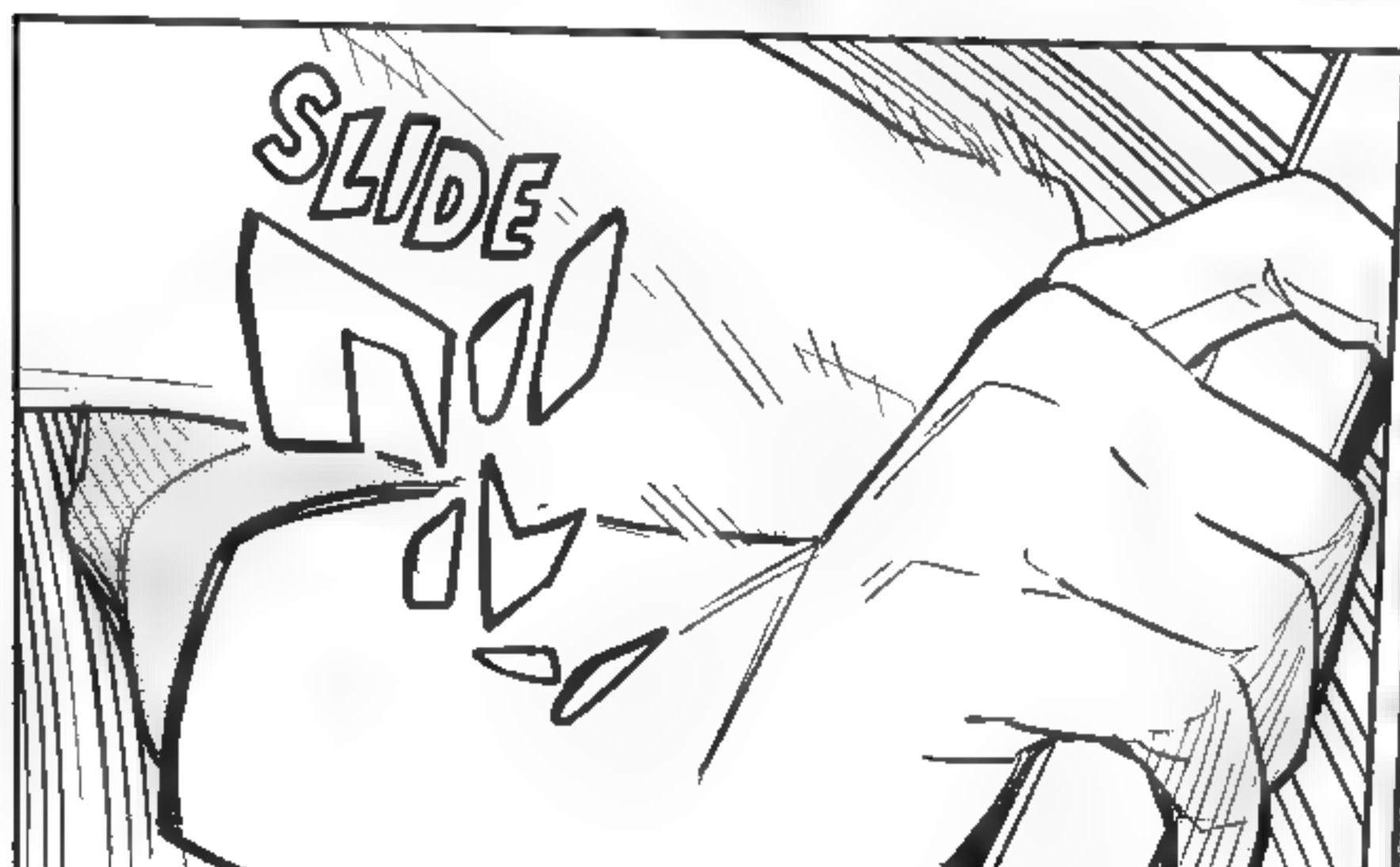
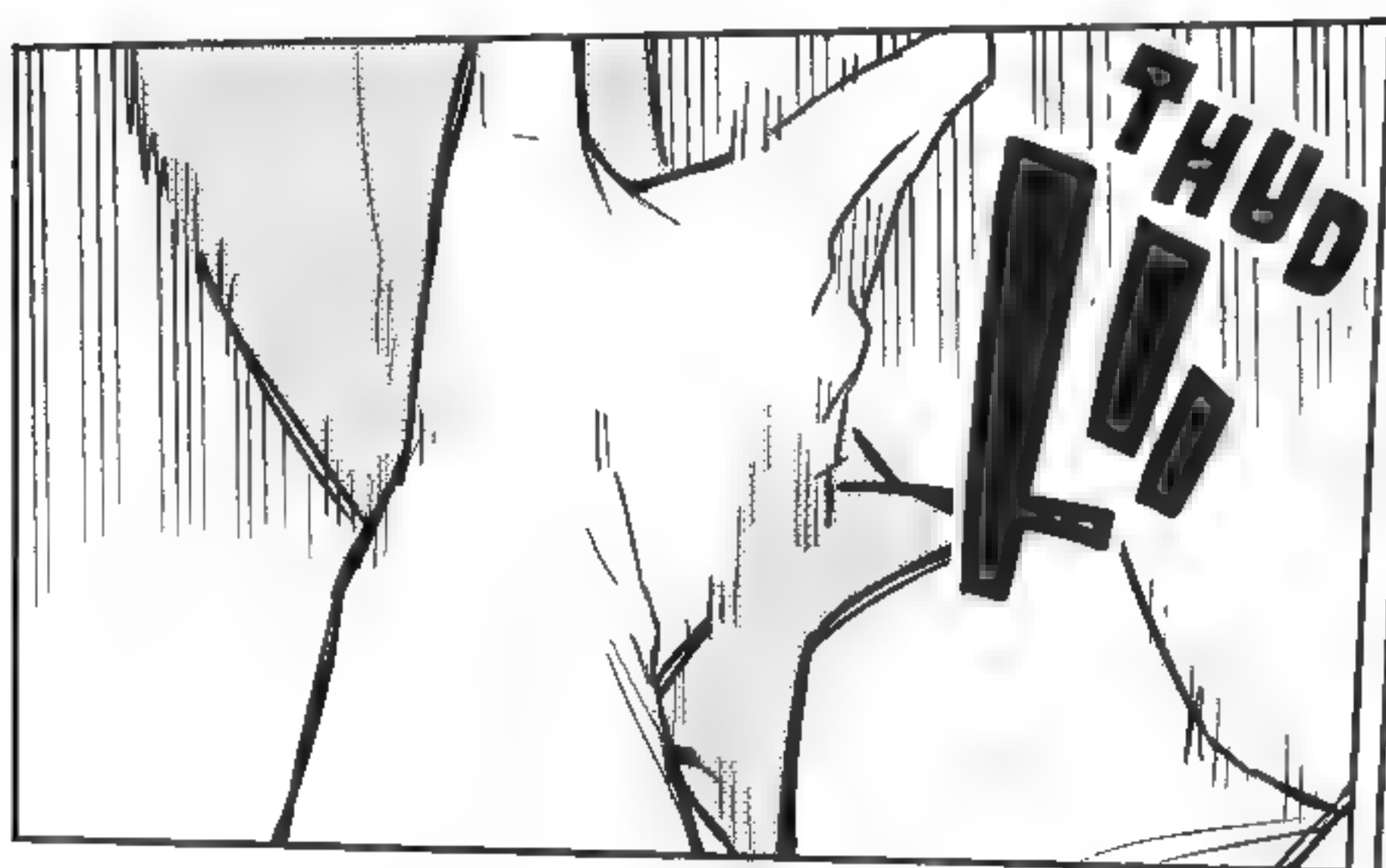
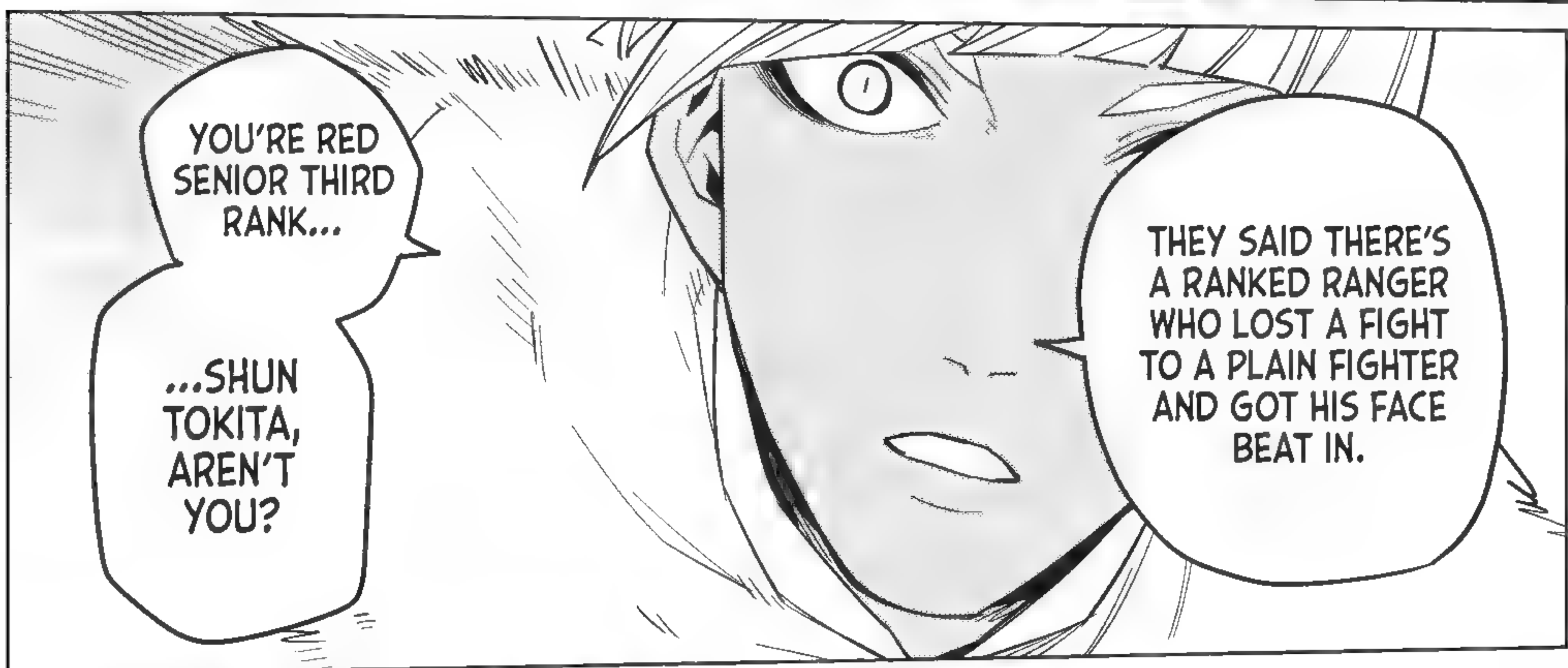
PLUS
IT'S TWO
ON ONE
THIS TIME.

I'LL BE
ABLE TO
FIND A WAY
TO WIN IF I
WORK WITH
SHION.

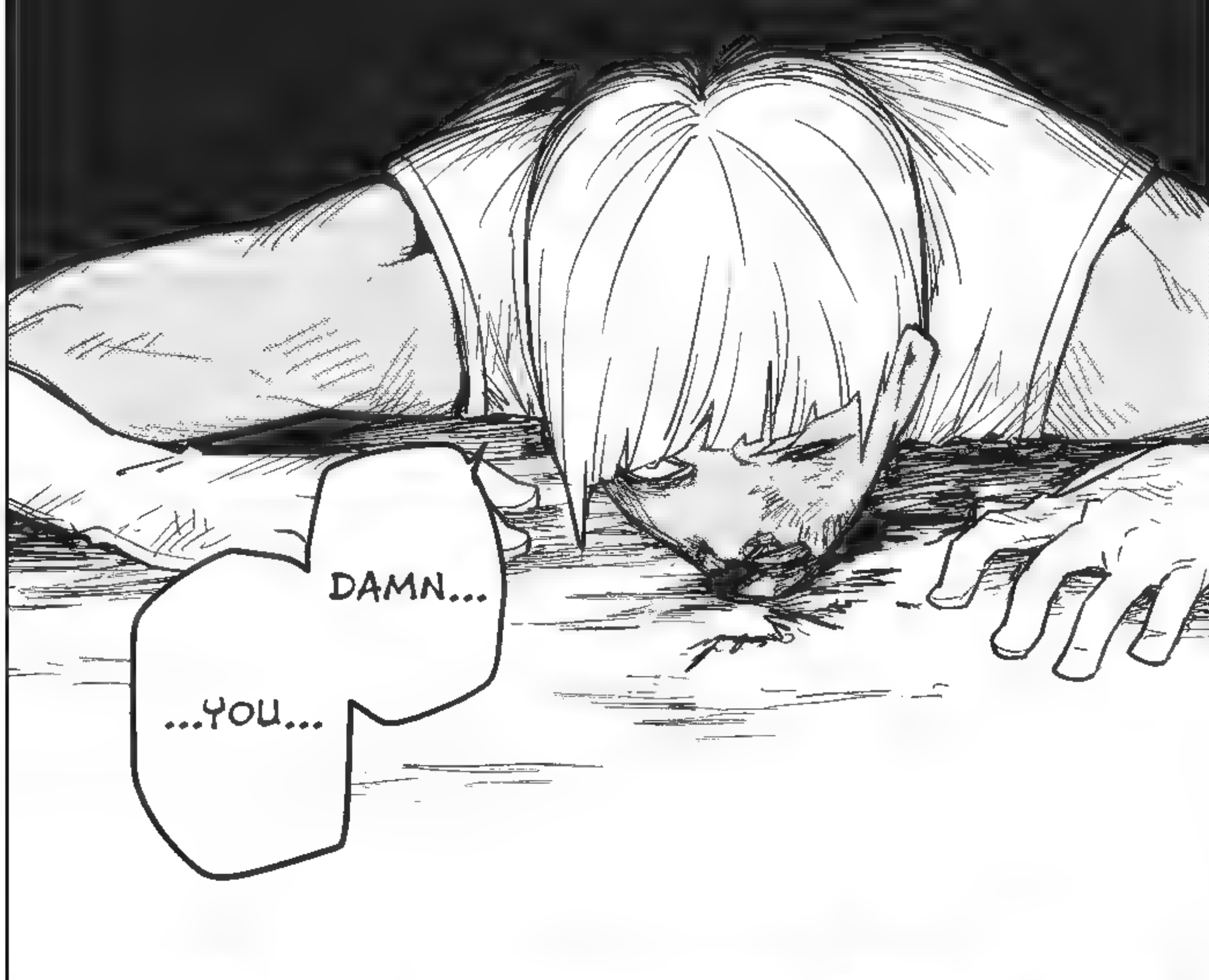
BUT IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
WHO I'M UP
AGAINST.

DIDN'T
THINK
I'D BE
FACING
HIM
AGAIN...

DAMMIT!
GOT OFF
TO A SLOW
START.



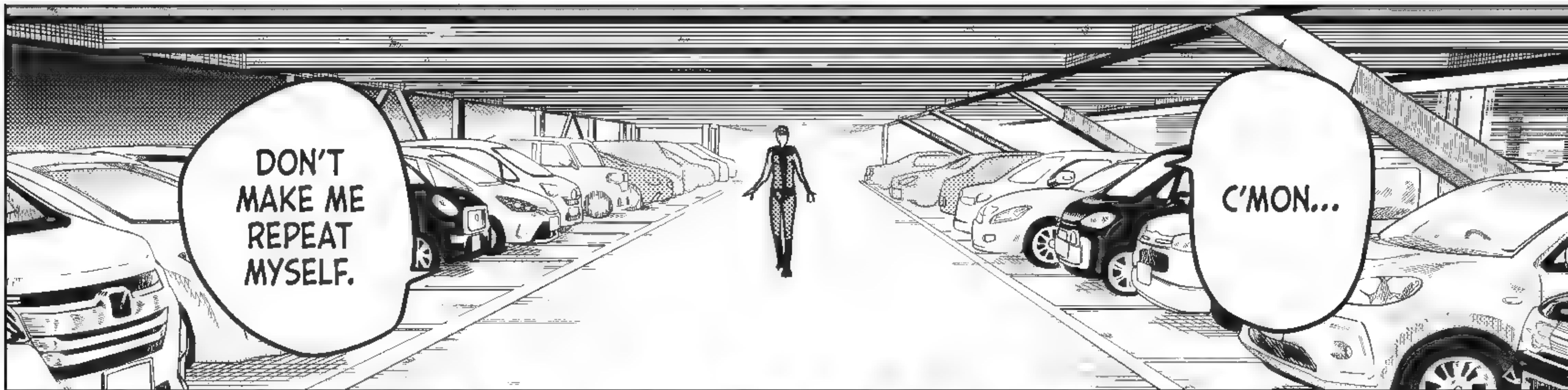




DAMN...
...YOU...



A-ARE YOU
OKAY?!



DON'T
MAKE ME
REPEAT
MYSELF.

C'MON...

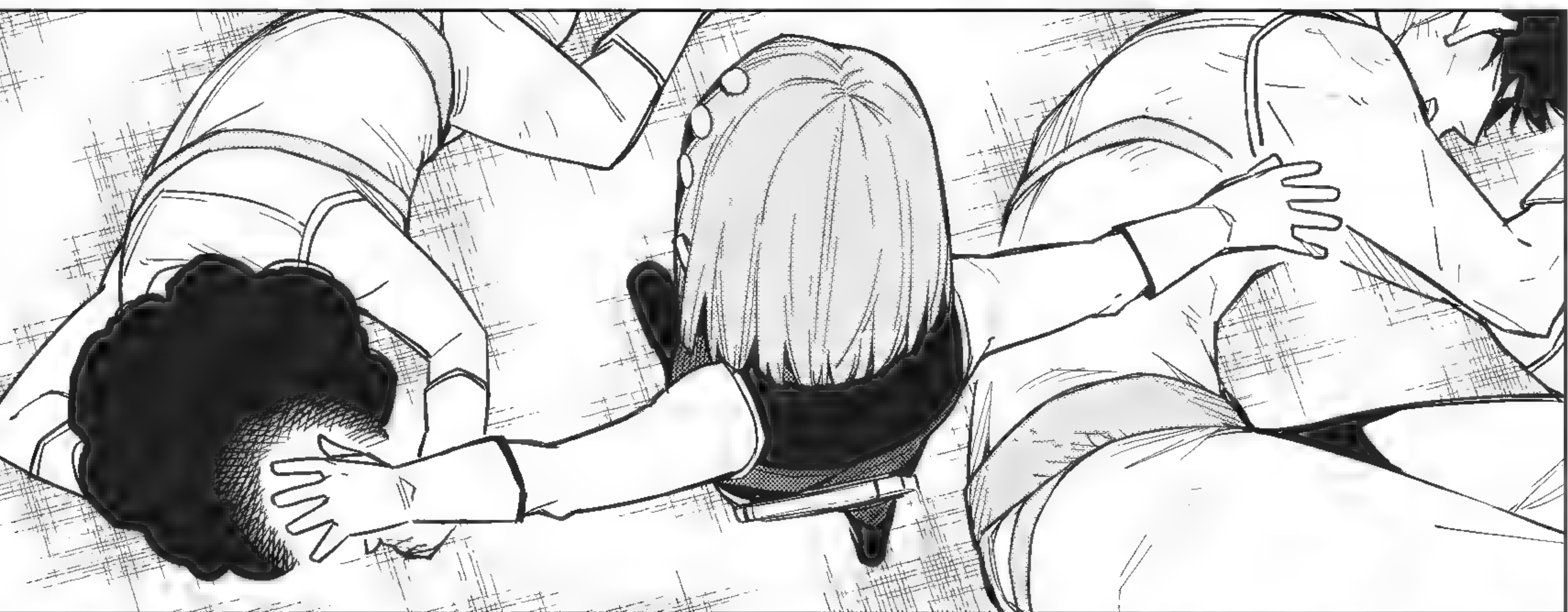


THIS IS
CHILD'S PLAY
TO ME.

YOU
DON'T
NEED TO
HOLD
BACK.



**YOU'LL
NEVER BE
ABLE TO
BEAT ME
AT THIS
RATE.**



**WHICH IS
WHY...**

**YOU'RE
SUCH A
PAIN.**





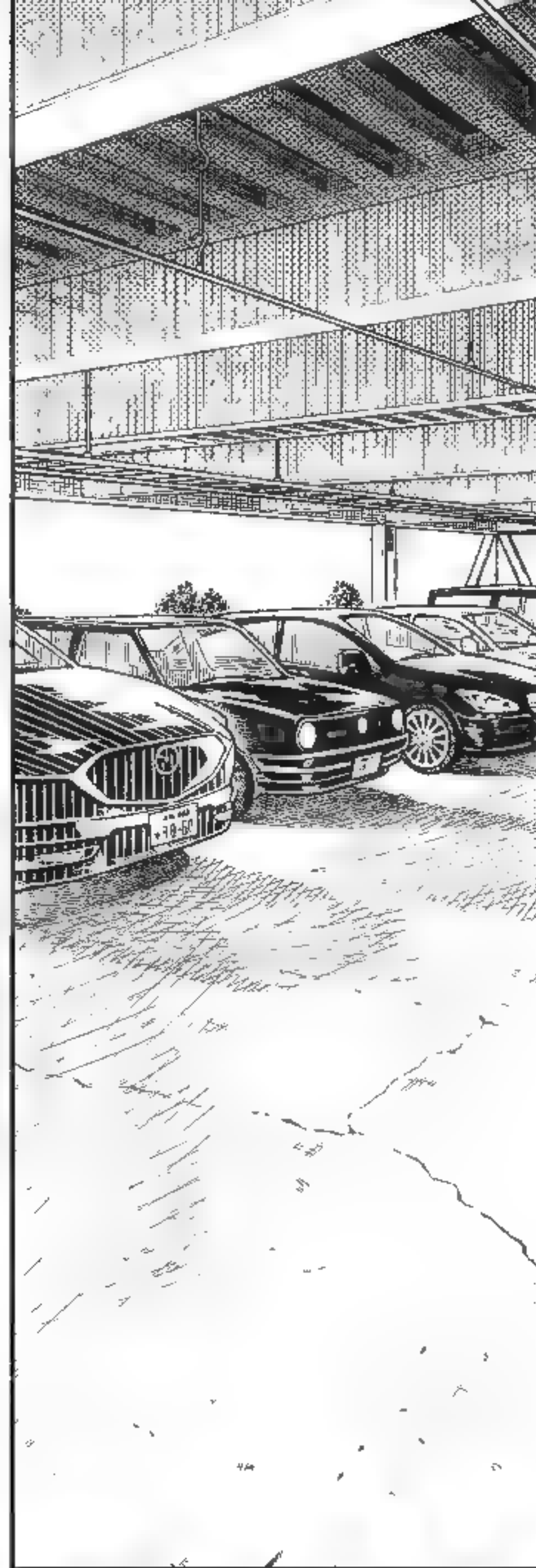
THIS IS NOTHING...

SHUT UP...



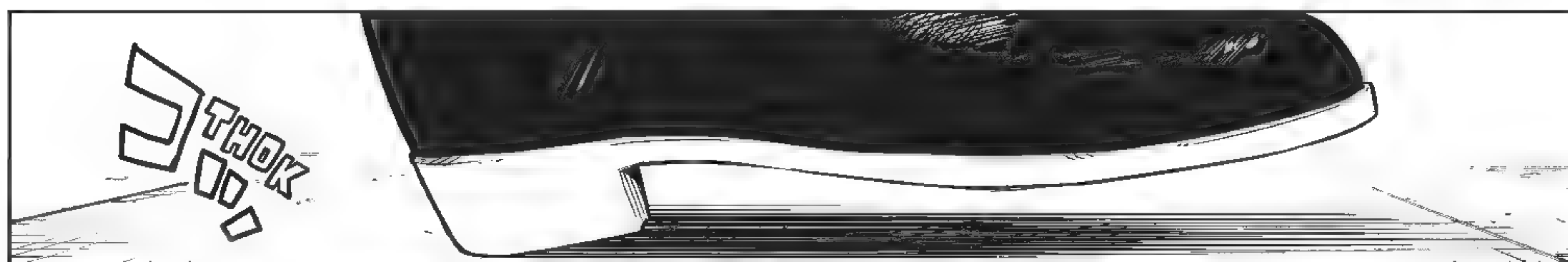
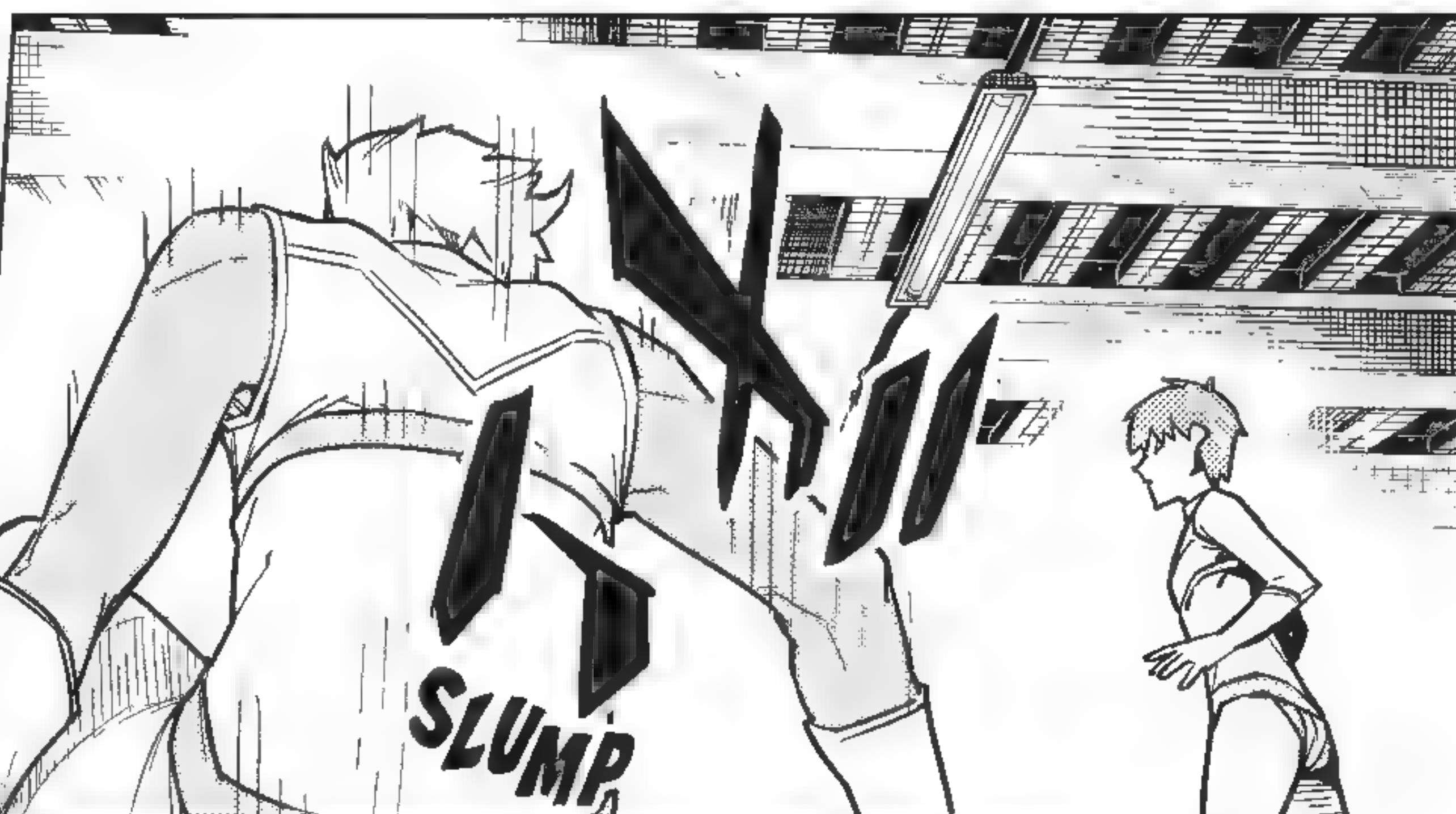
DO YOU STILL HAVE THE STRENGTH TO FIGHT?

SHION-KUN.



DAMN.

HE GOT HIT GOOD.



I HAVEN'T GOTTEN TO PLAY WITH YOU SINCE OUR TIME IN THE ORPHANAGE.

THIS TAKES ME BACK.

JUST GONNA SIT BACK AND TWIDDLE YOUR THUMBS INSTEAD OF FACING THE MONSTER?

HIBIKI. LITTLE BUDDY.

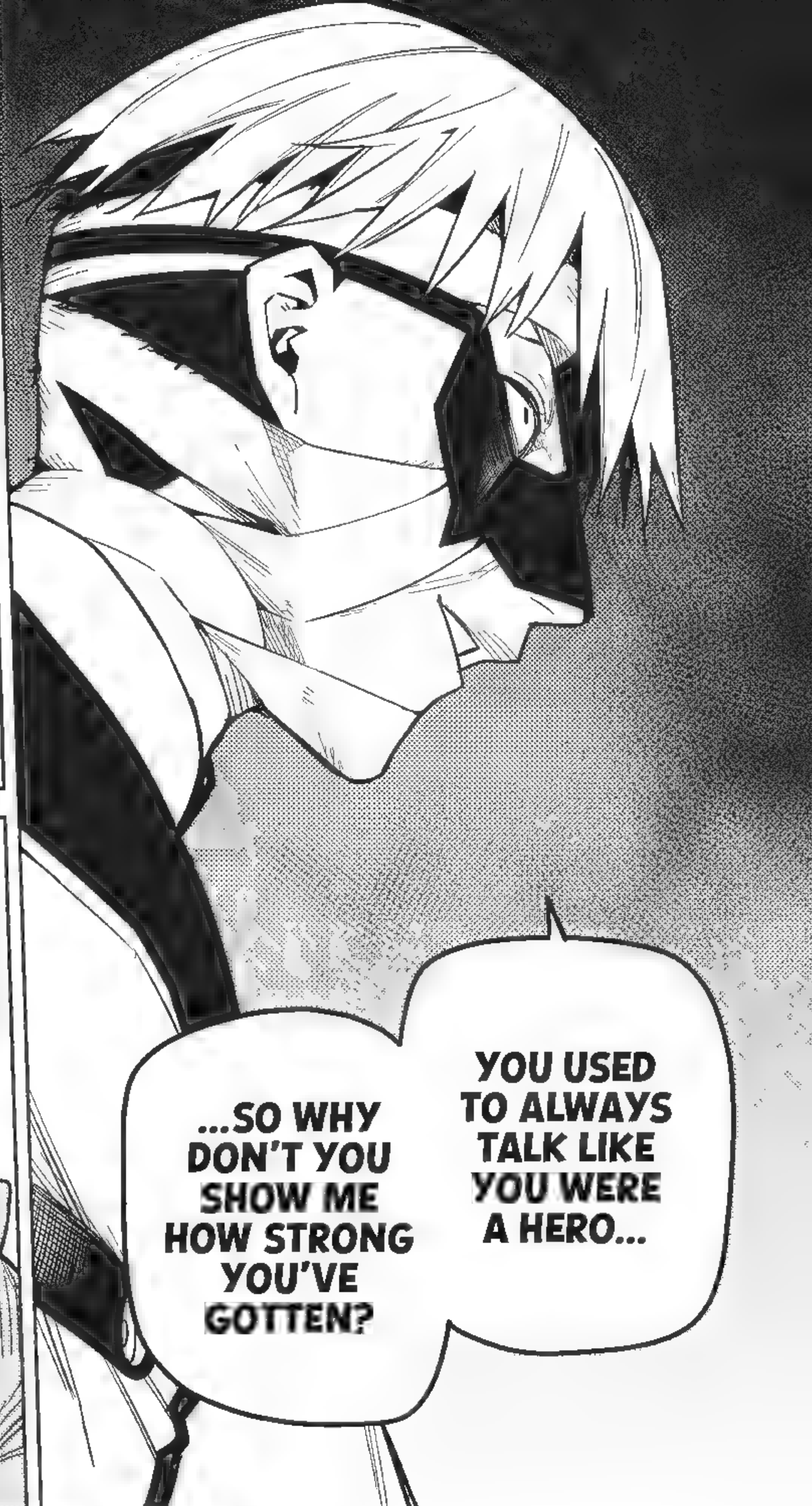


I HAVE
TO DO
THIS.



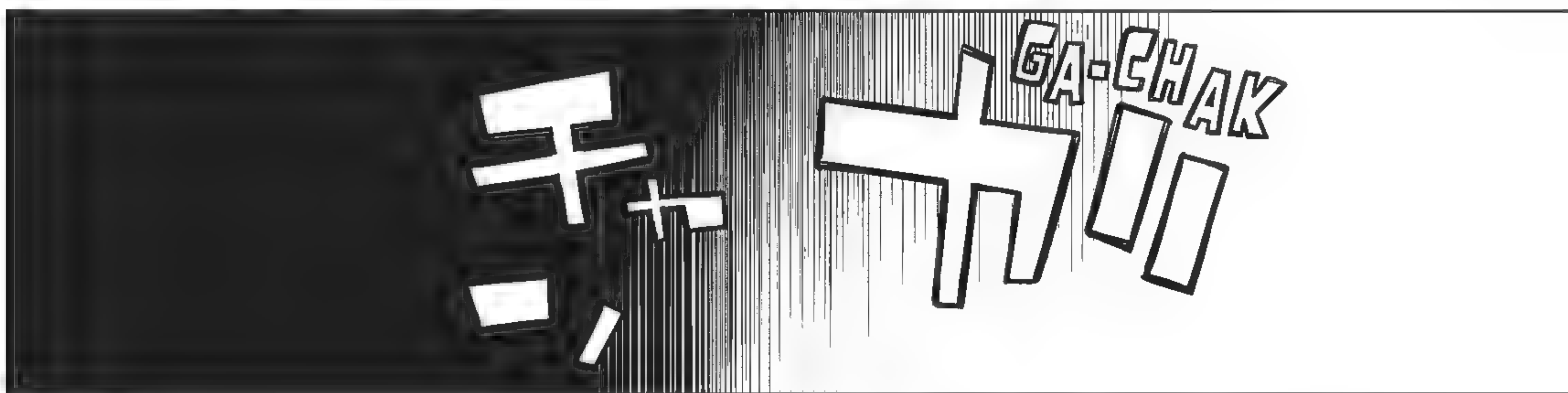
BUT IT'LL
ALL BE OVER
RIGHT HERE
AND NOW IF HE
HITS ME WITH
AN ATTACK AND
EXPOSES ME.

I'LL MAINTAIN
THIS DISTANCE
AS I FIGHT.



...SO WHY
DON'T YOU
SHOW ME
HOW STRONG
YOU'VE
GOTTEN?

YOU USED
TO ALWAYS
TALK LIKE
YOU WERE
A HERO...



IT'LL PROBABLY BE
DIFFICULT FOR EVEN
YOU TO REPRODUCE
WITH YOUR MIMICRY,
D-KUN.

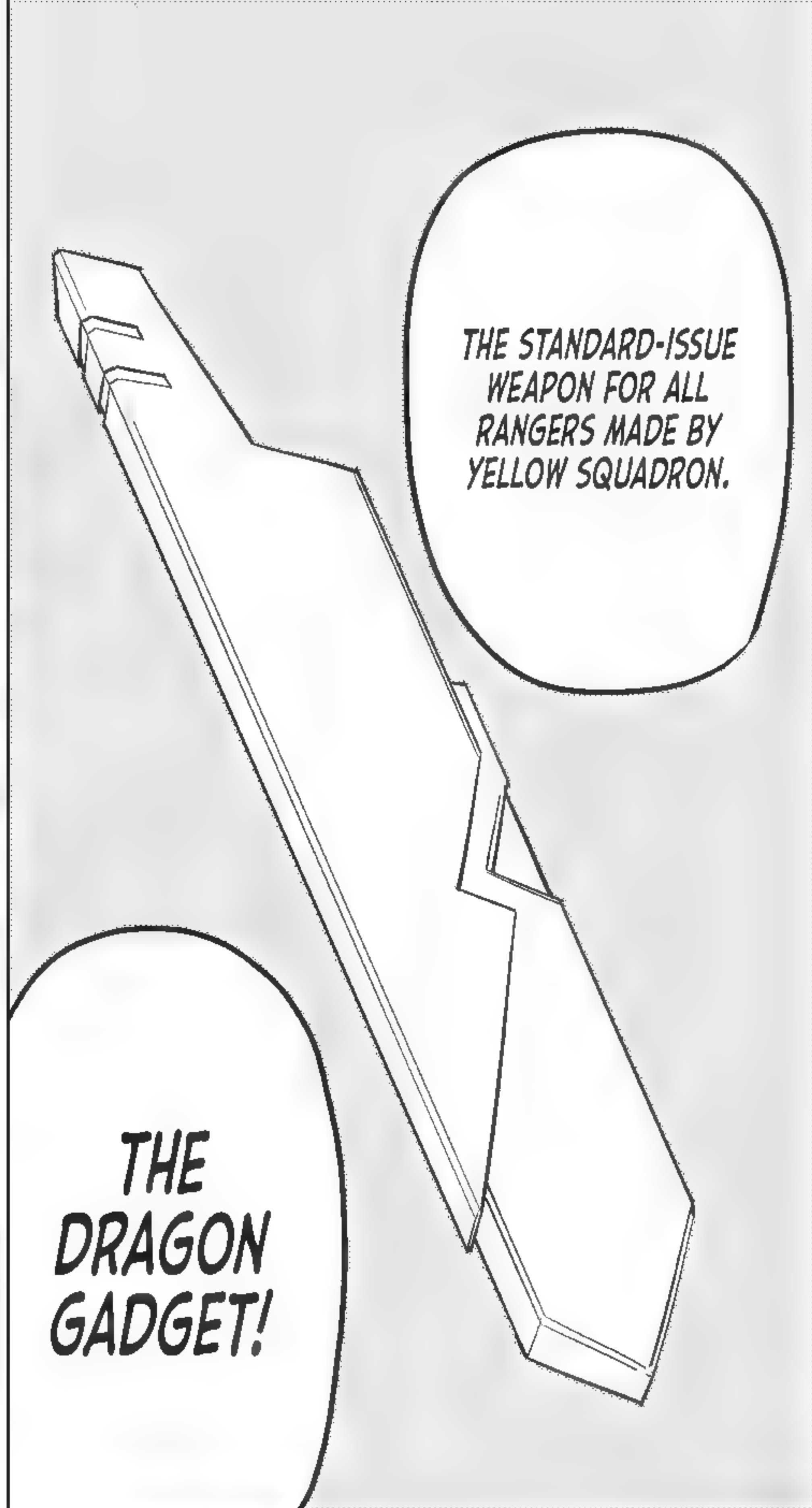
THIS IS THE
ONE THING I'LL
GIVE YOU.



IT'S POPULAR IN
TOY FORM, TOO. NO
KID IS GOING TO BE
LET DOWN IF YOU
GIVE THEM THIS AS
A PRESENT.



THAT THING
ONLY BRINGS UP
BAD MEMORIES
FOR ME.



THE STANDARD-ISSUE
WEAPON FOR ALL
RANGERS MADE BY
YELLOW SQUADRON.

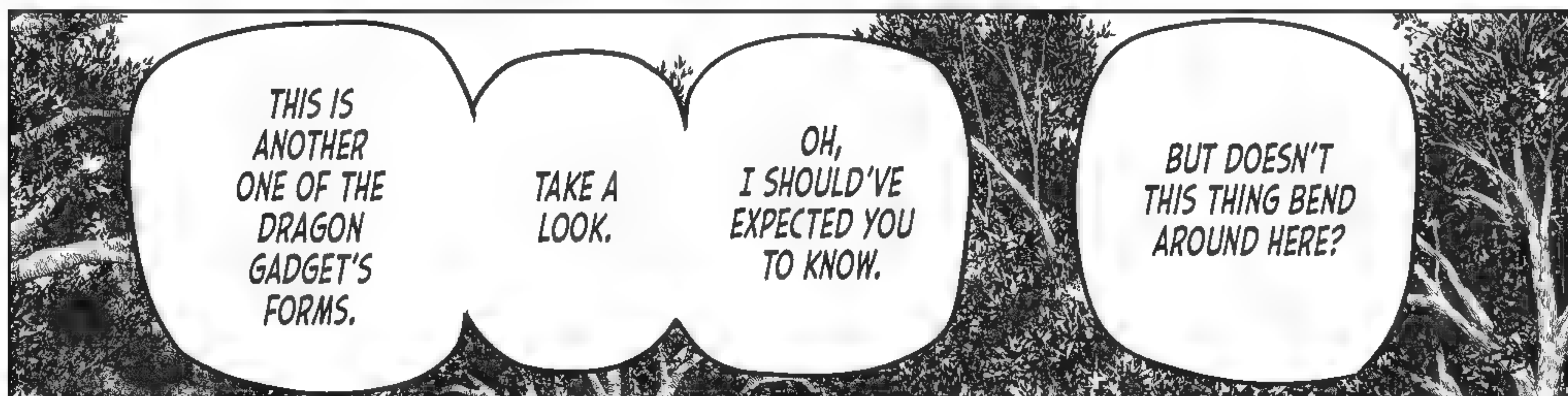
THE
DRAGON
GADGET!



HMPH!

DON'T TRY
TO BREAK IT
FIRST THING!

AAHH!



THIS IS
ANOTHER
ONE OF THE
DRAGON
GADGET'S
FORMS.

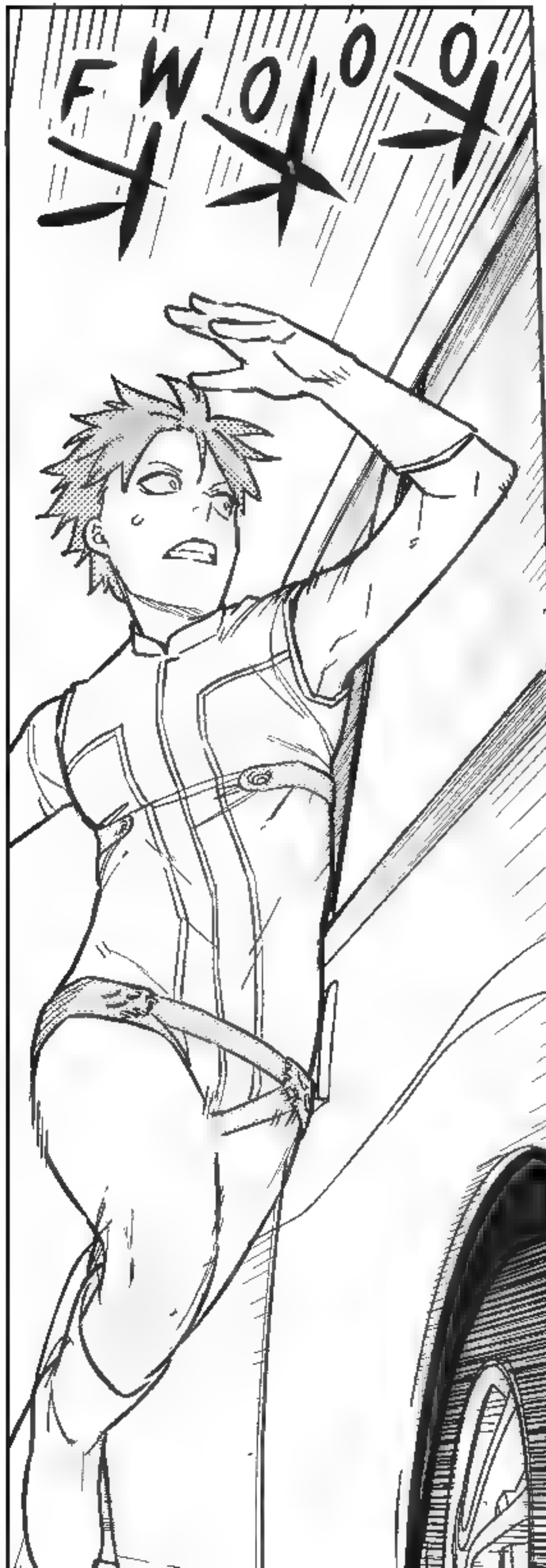
TAKE A
LOOK.

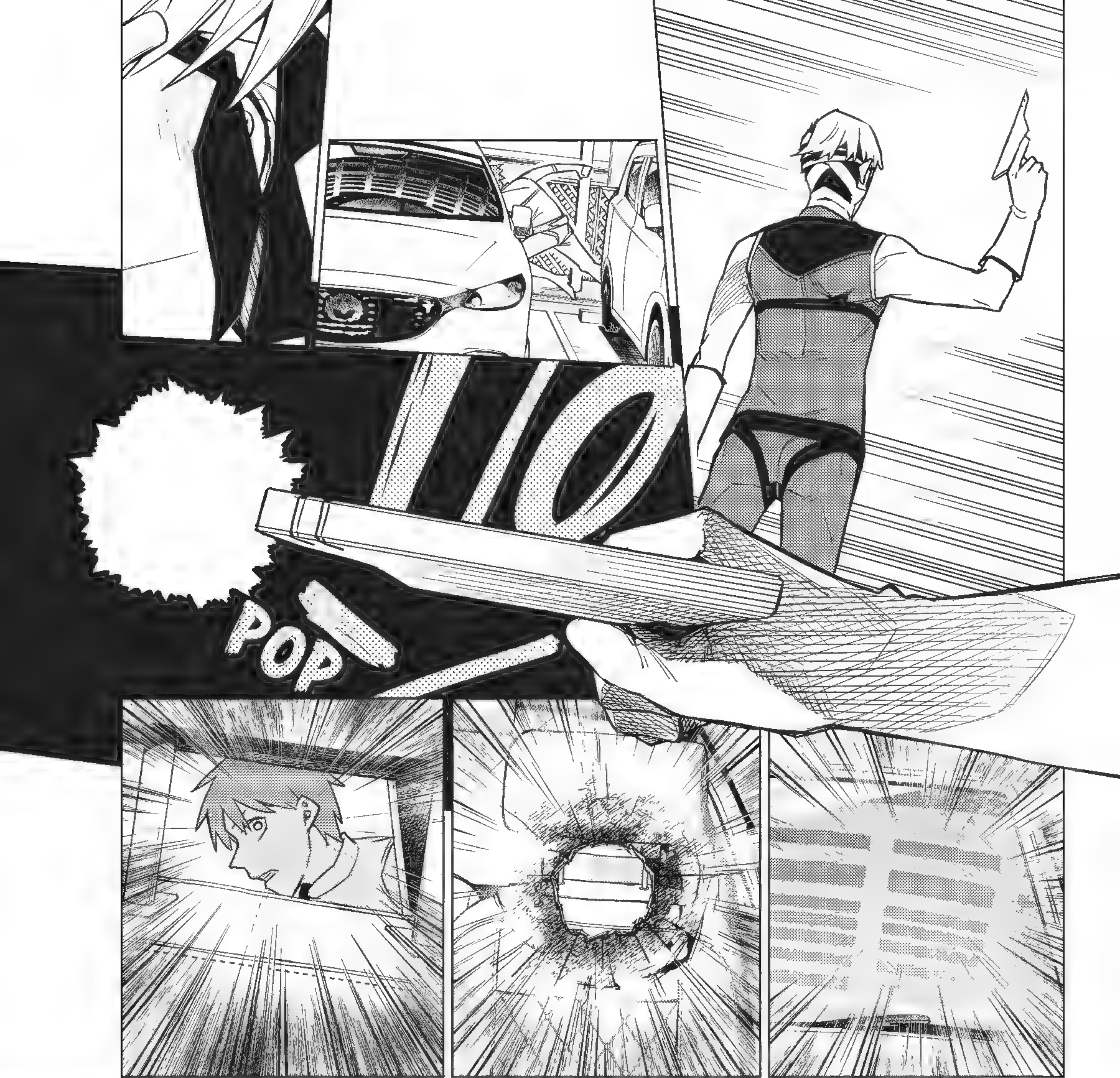
OH,
I SHOULD'VE
EXPECTED YOU
TO KNOW.

BUT DOESN'T
THIS THING BEND
AROUND HERE?



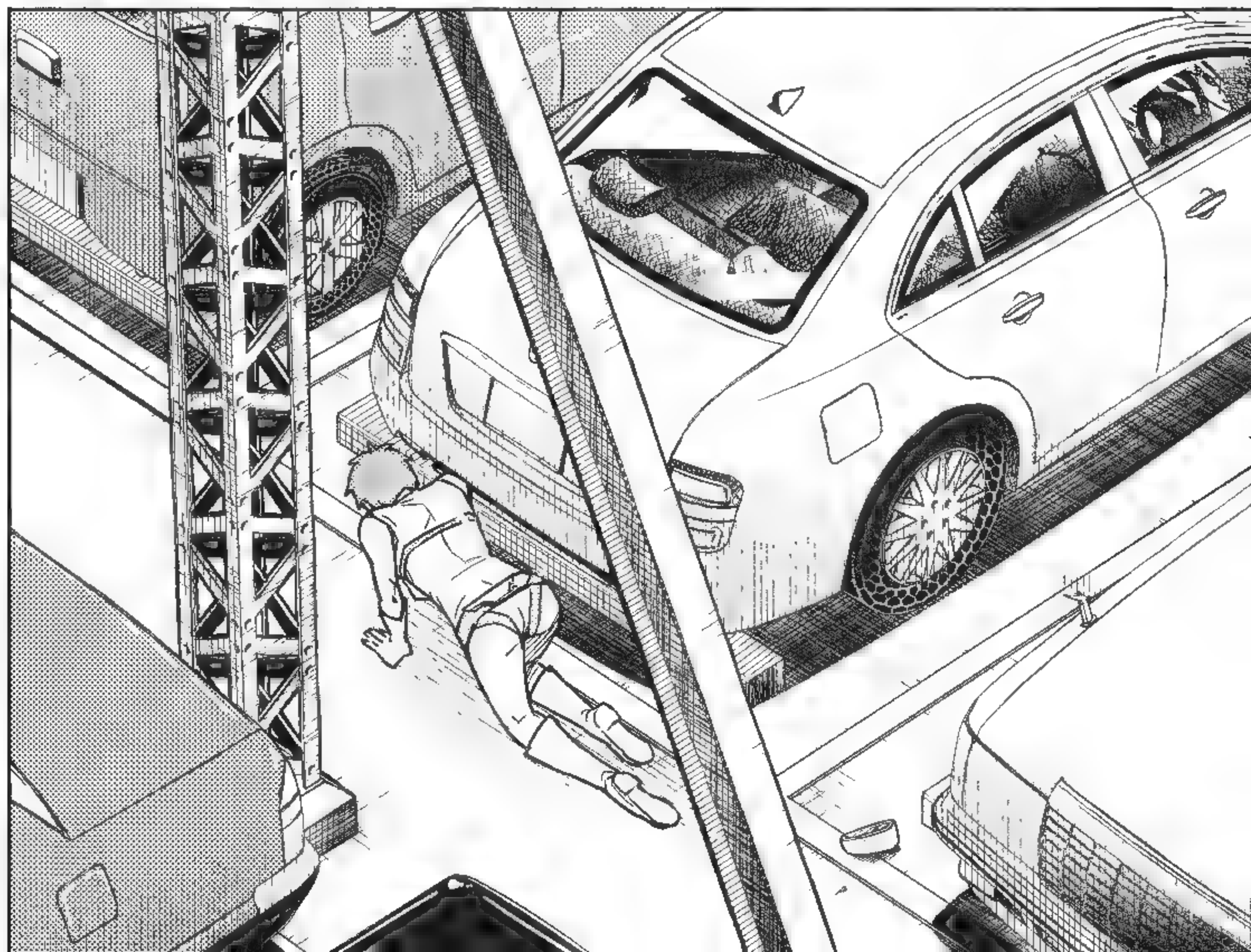
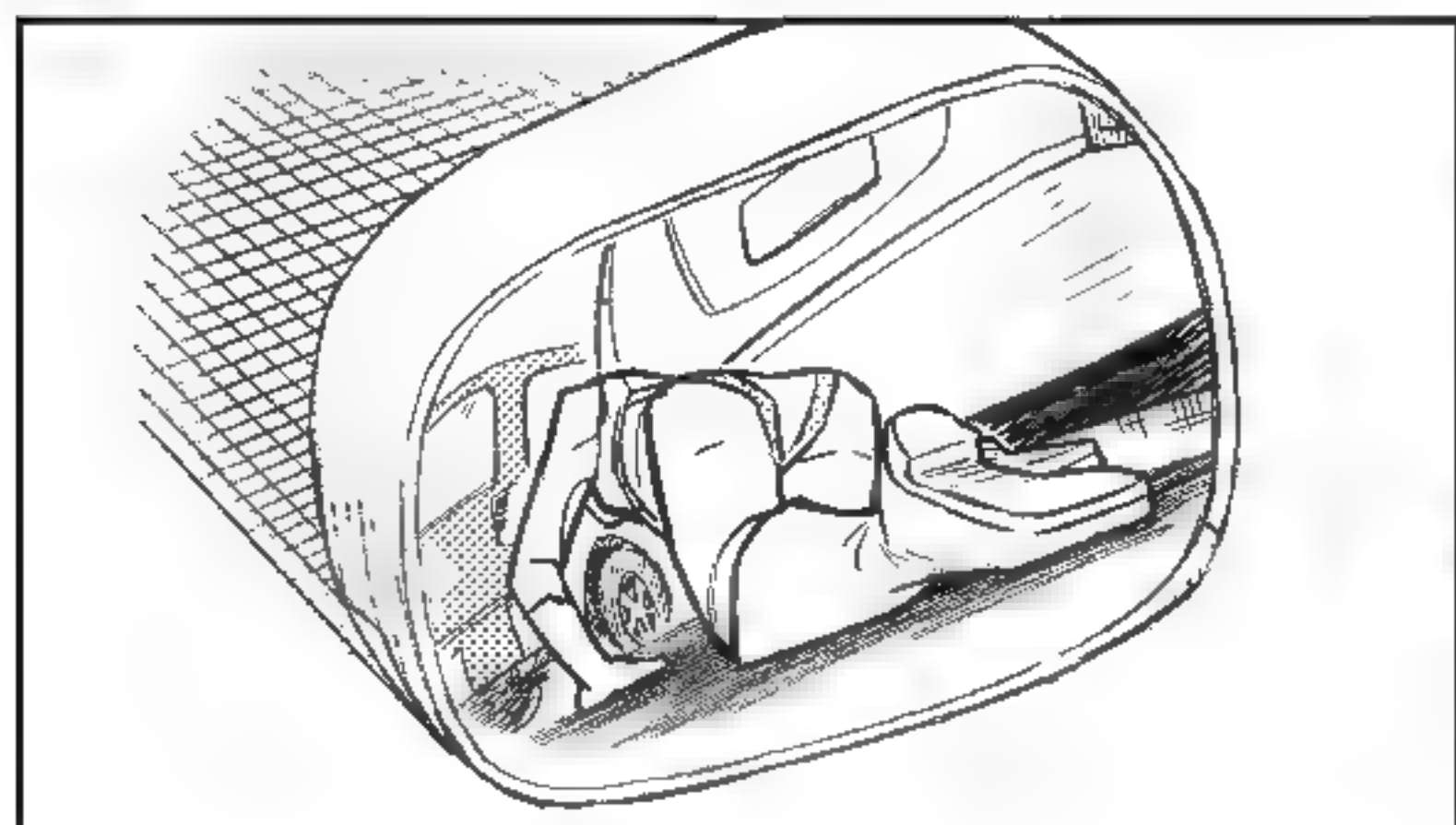
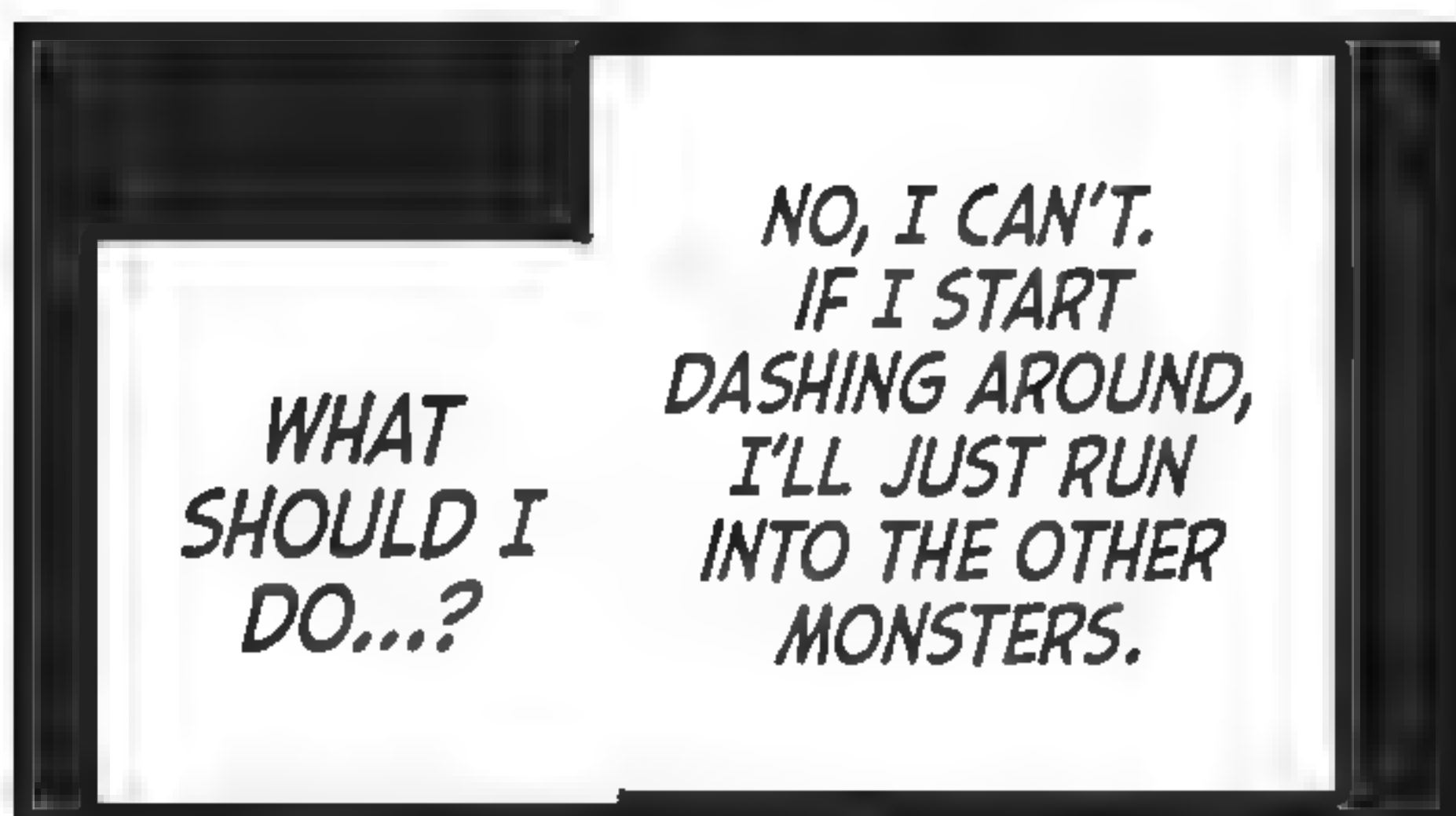
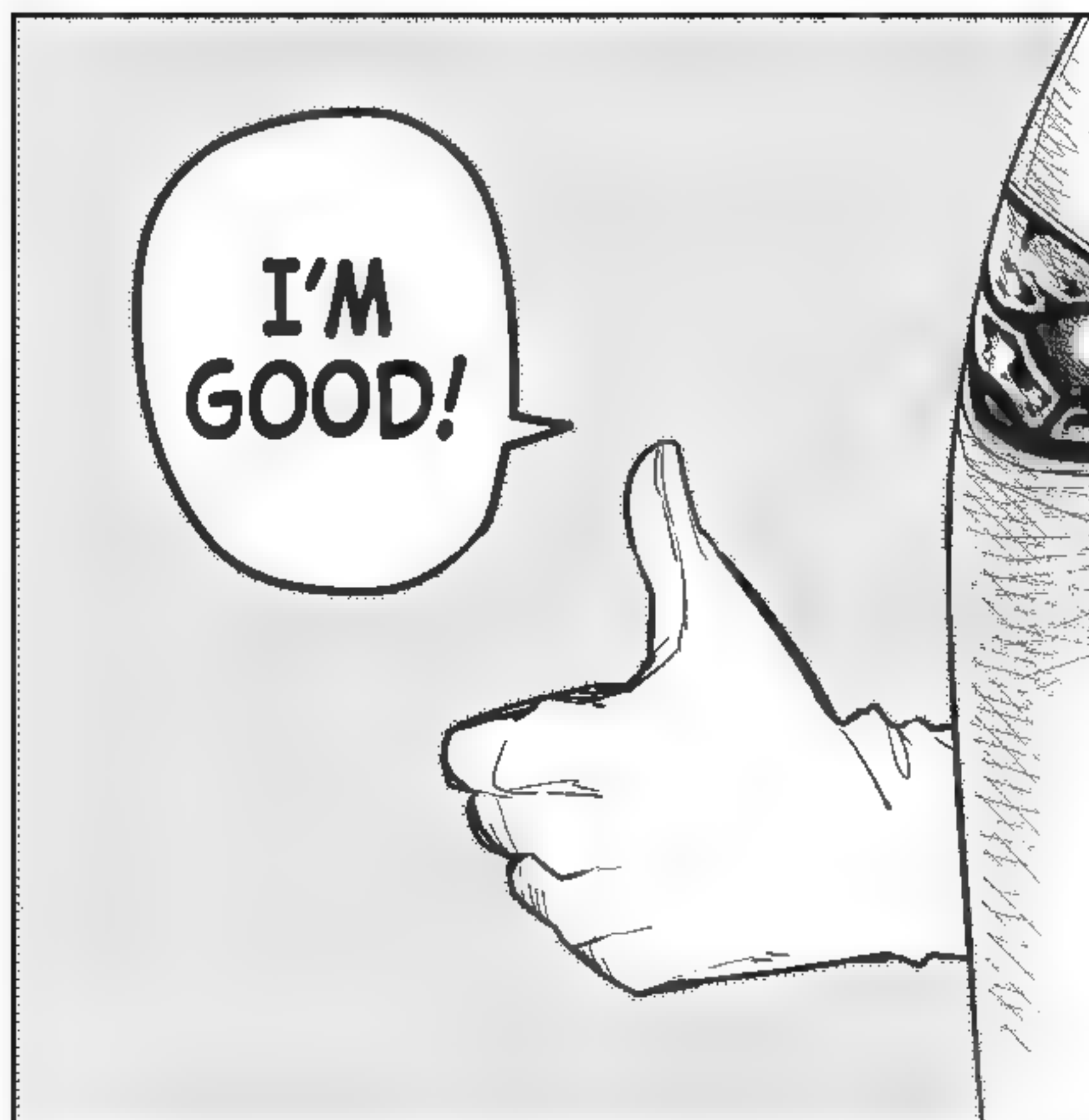
GUN
FORM!





...NGH!

THIS IS
NOTHING!





YOU THINK
I'D LEAVE
WITHOUT
GETTING
PAYBACK?

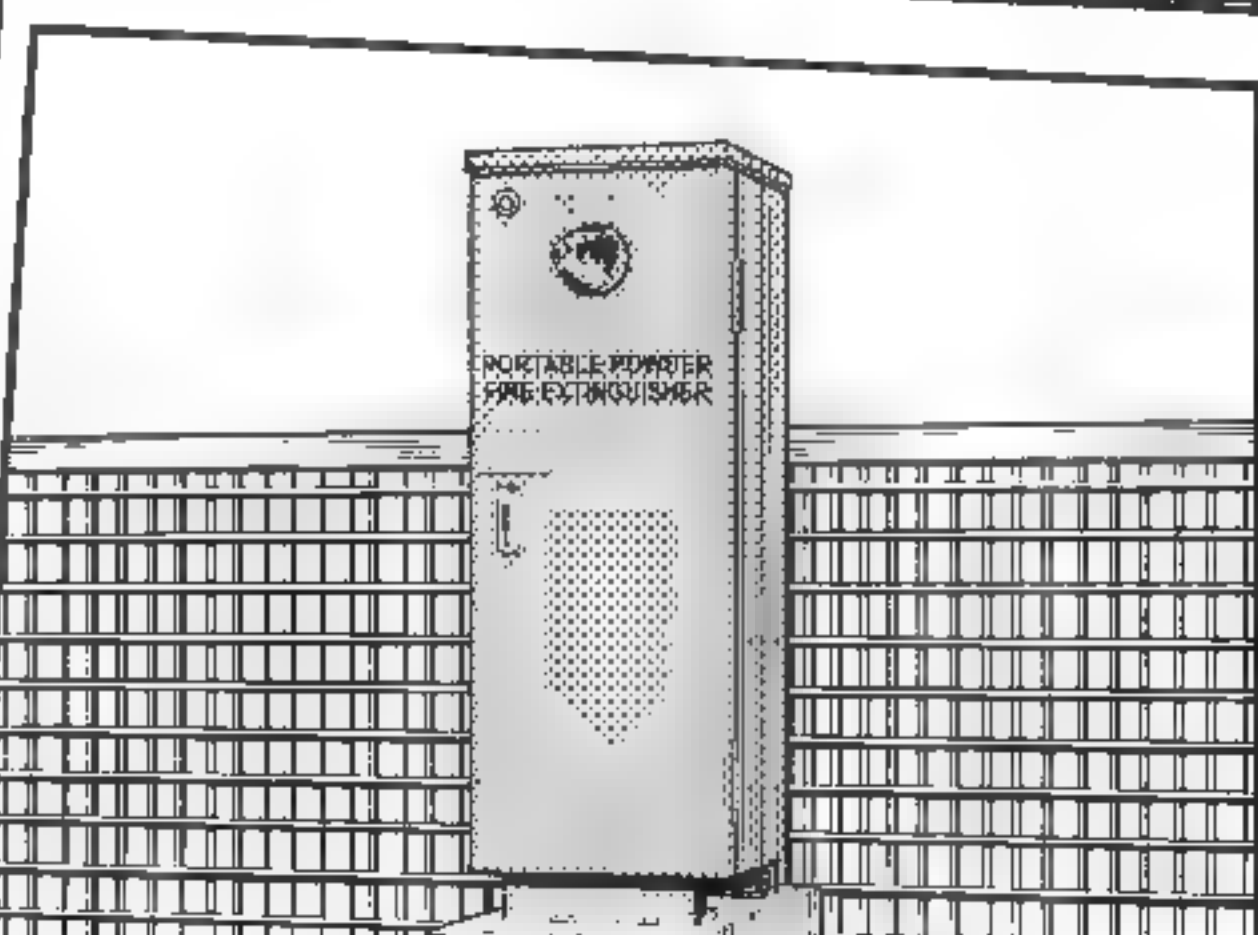
SO
YOU'RE
STILL
HERE.

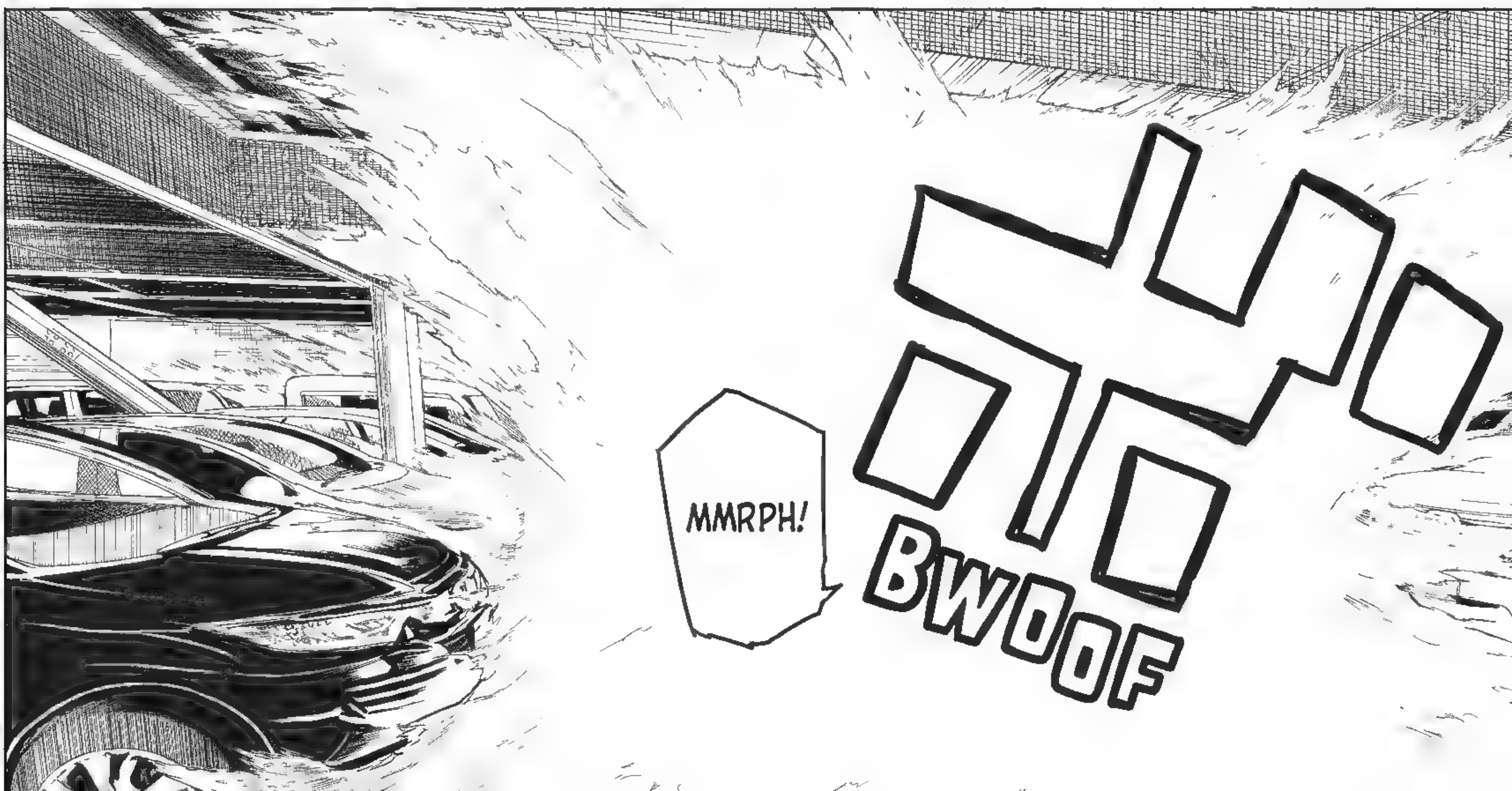
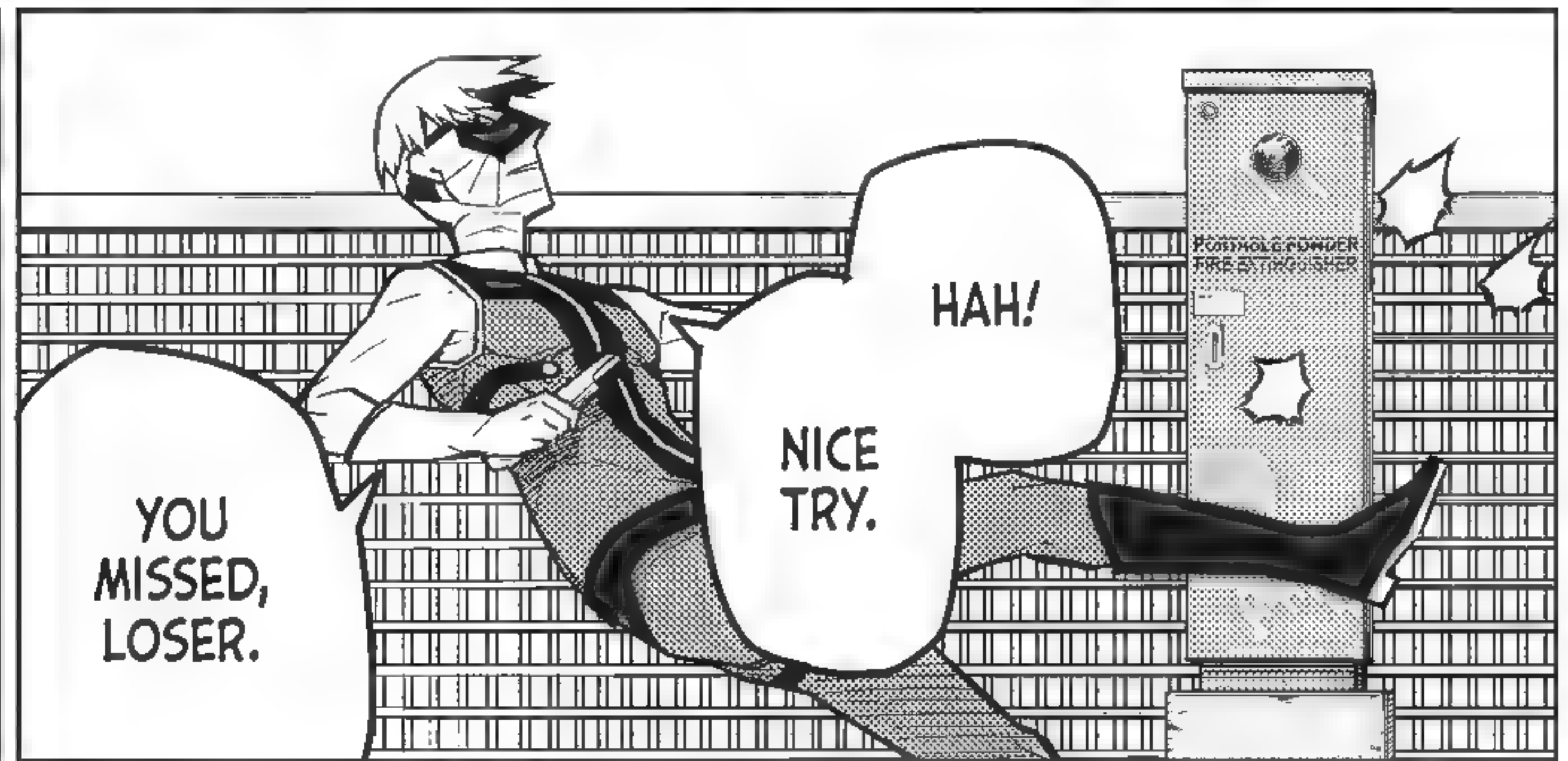
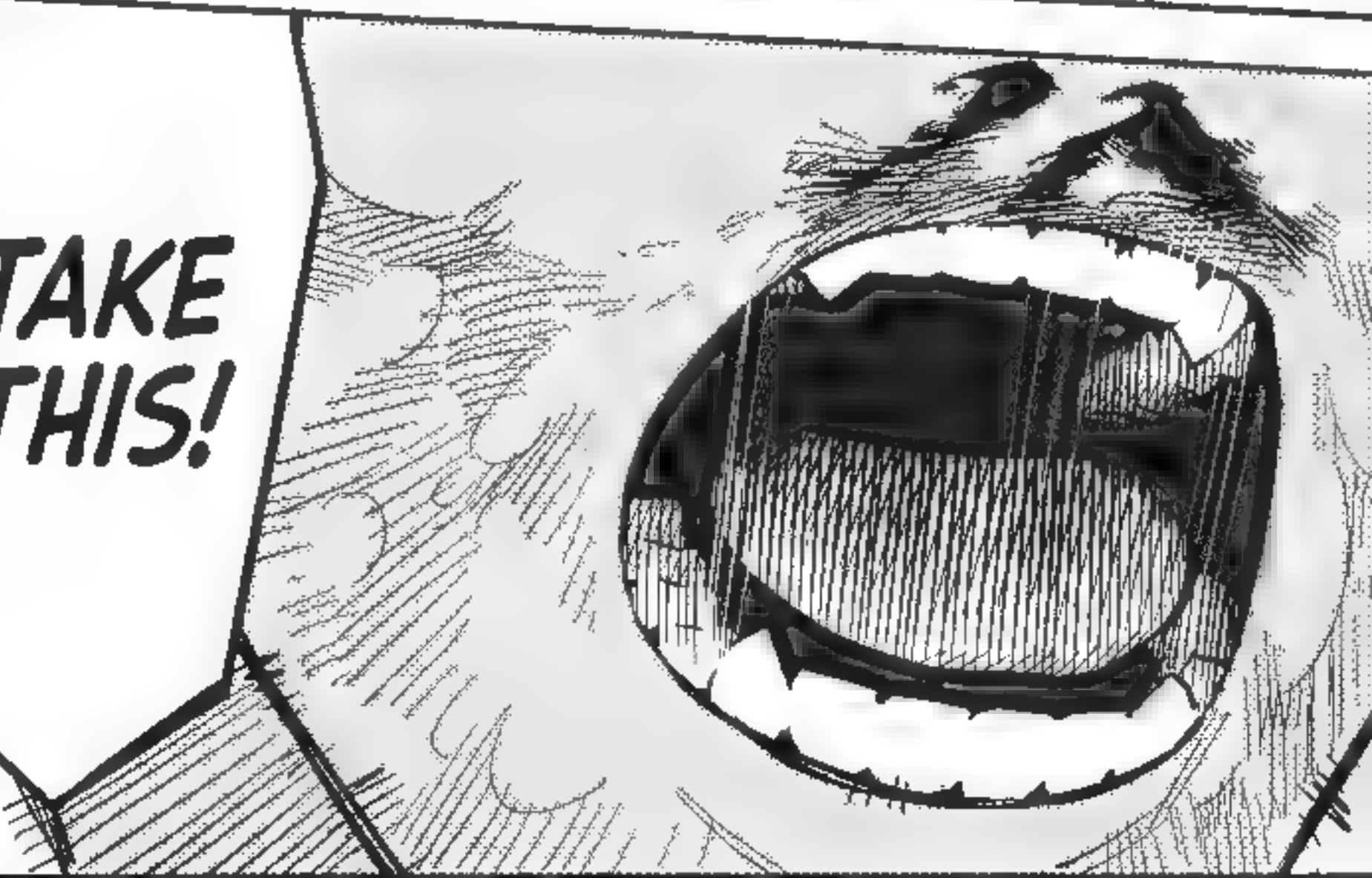
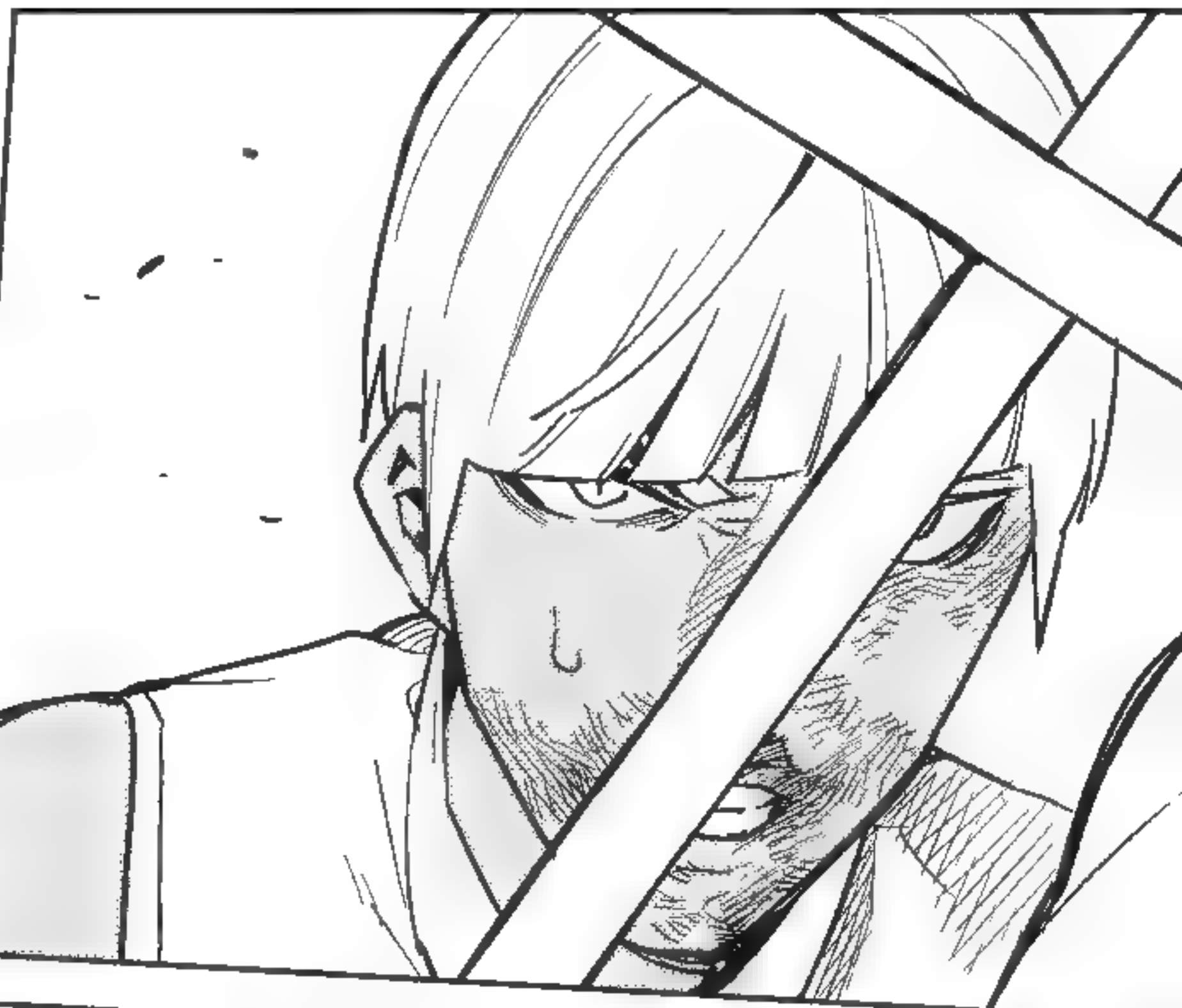
I WAS
CONVINCED
YOU'D TURNED
TAIL AND RAN.

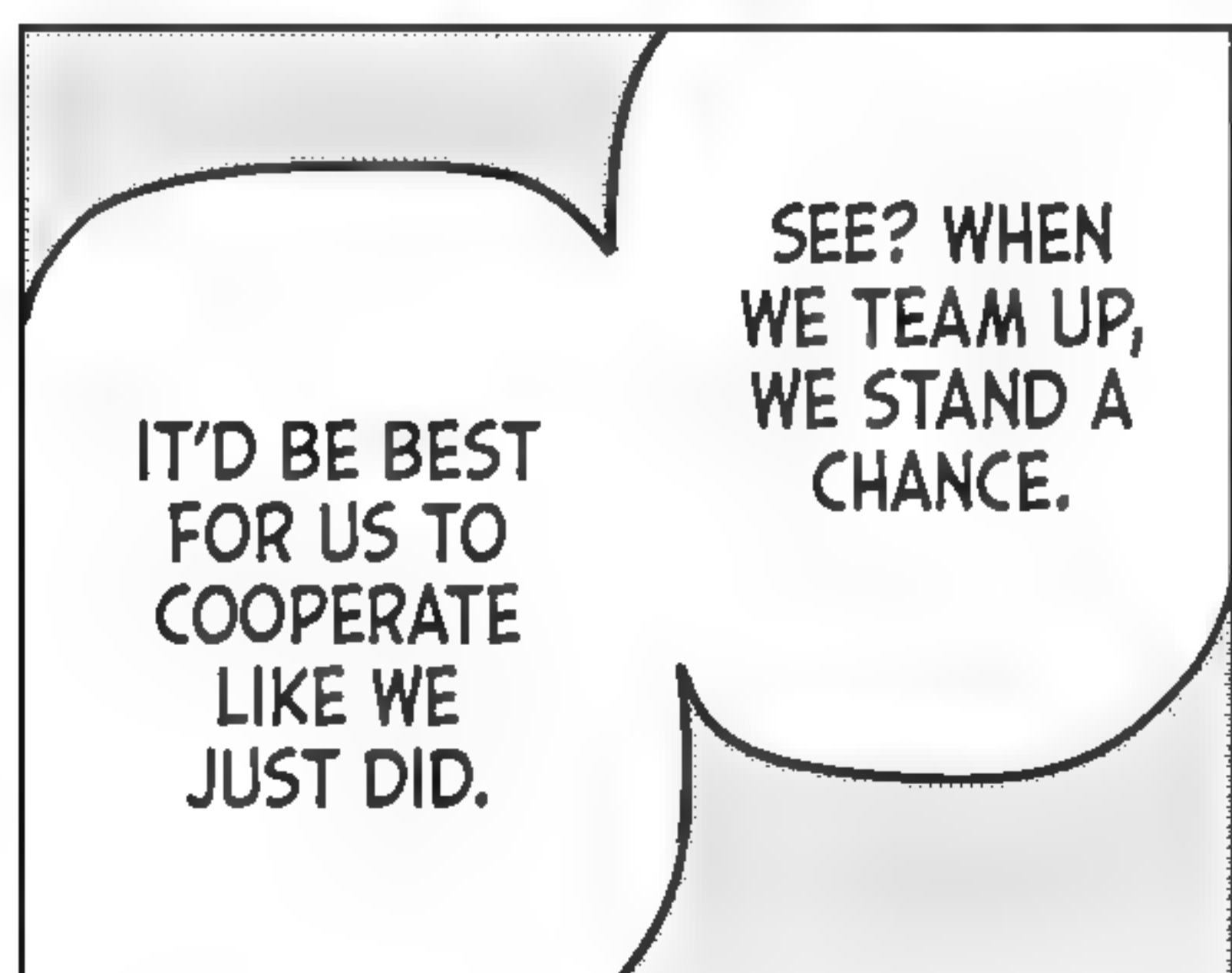
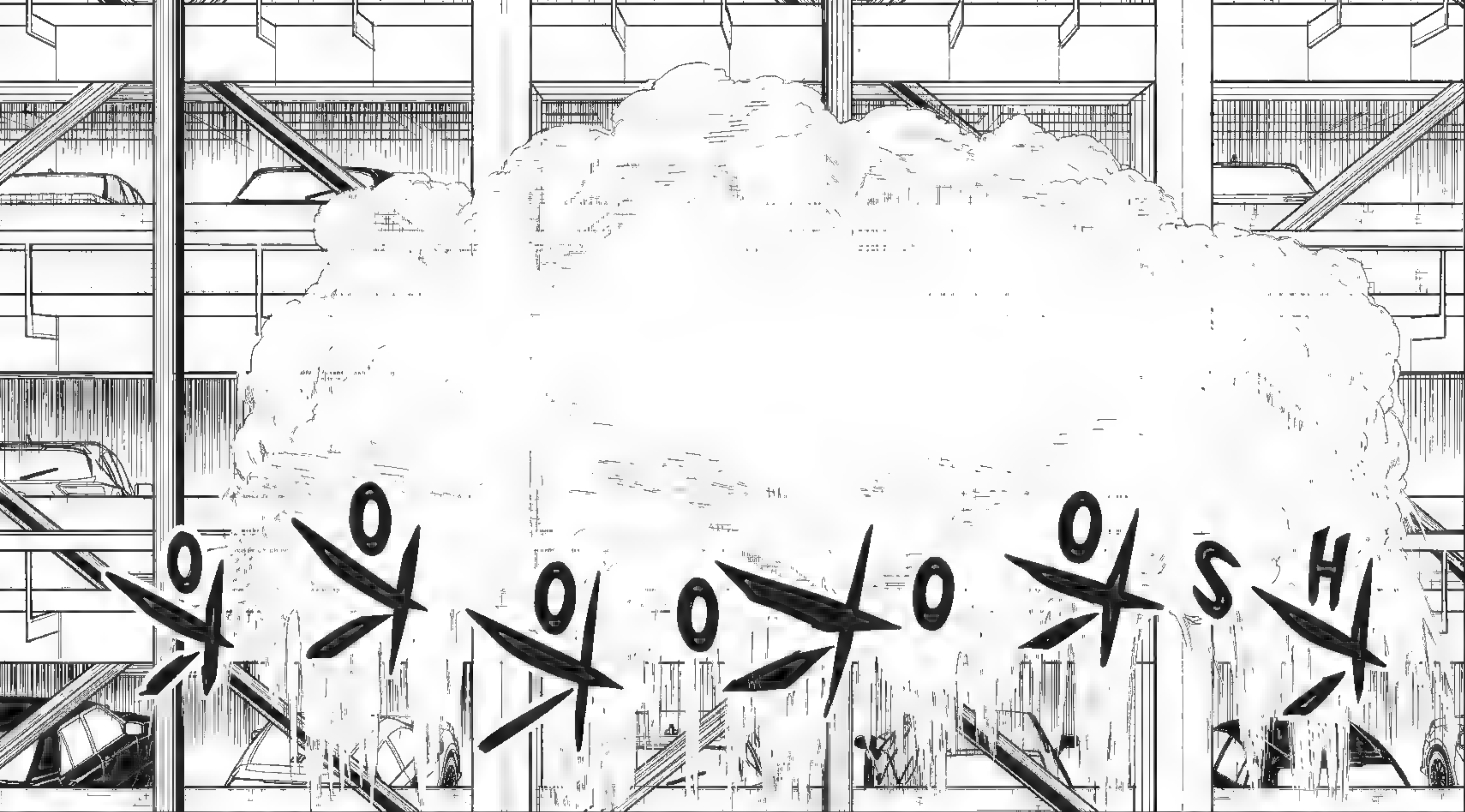


THIS
WAY,
SHION-
KUN!

HEY!







IT'D BE BEST
FOR US TO
COOPERATE
LIKE WE
JUST DID.

SEE? WHEN
WE TEAM UP,
WE STAND A
CHANCE.



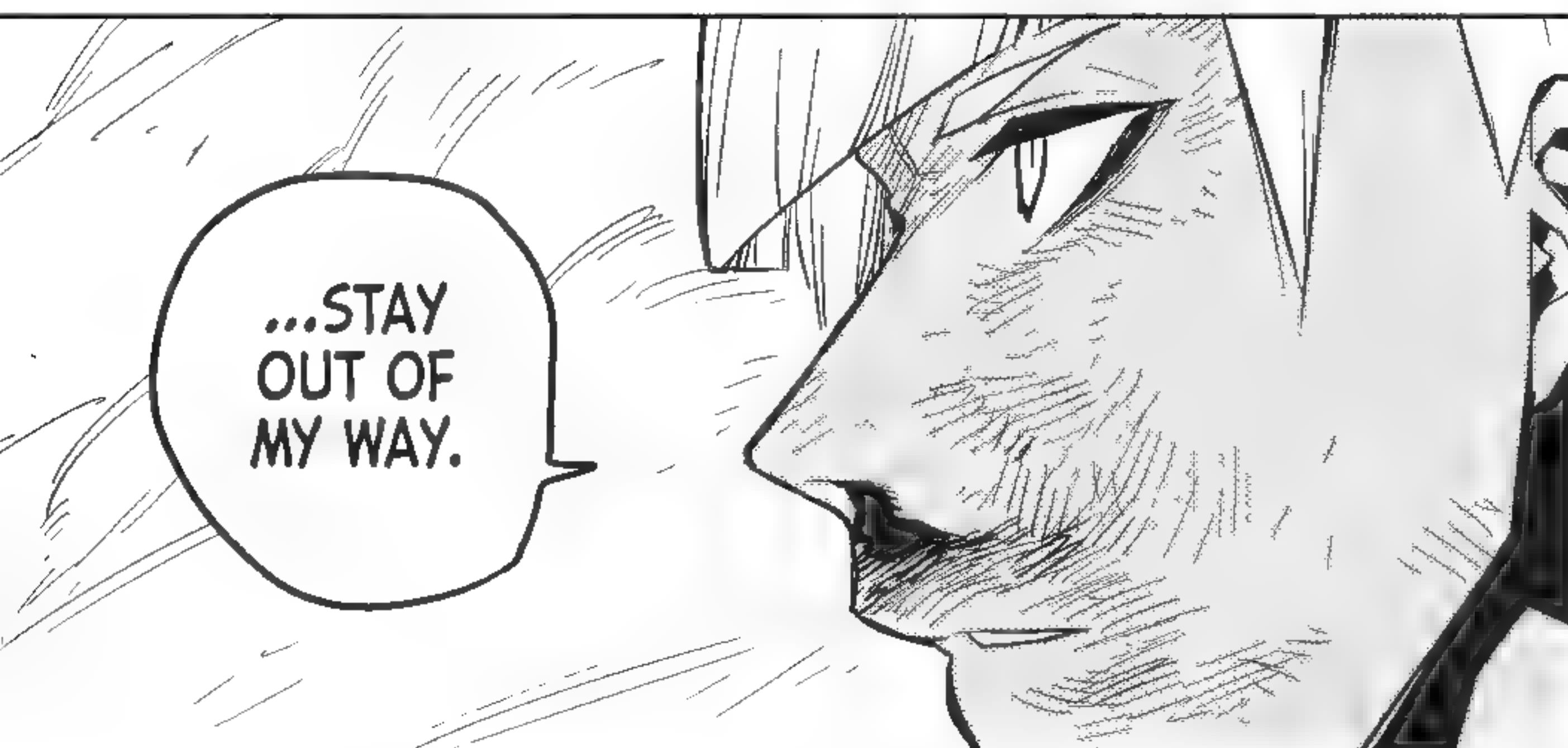
OVER
HERE.

SHION-
KUN!



PULLING BACK
HERE IS THE
SMARTEST...

LET'S
TAKE THE
TIME TO
COME UP
WITH A
PLAN.

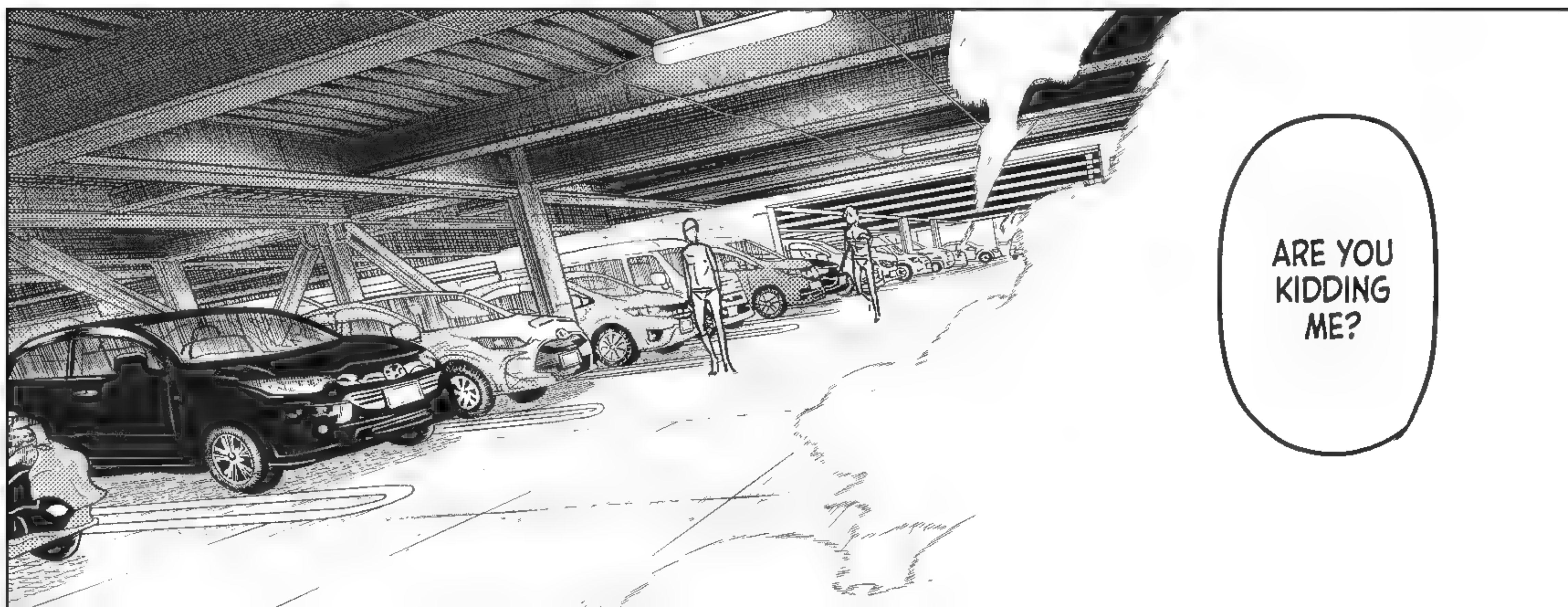


...STAY
OUT OF
MY WAY.



HEY,
WAIT...

ARE
YOU EVEN
LISTENING
TO ME?







THE REAL
POINT...?

WHOOOPS...



!



YOU
NEED TO
FIGURE
OUT...

...THE REAL
POINT OF
THIS TEST.



DASH

LOOK,
I LET THAT
SLIP BECAUSE
YOU GOT ME
TALKIN'!



GA-
CHAK



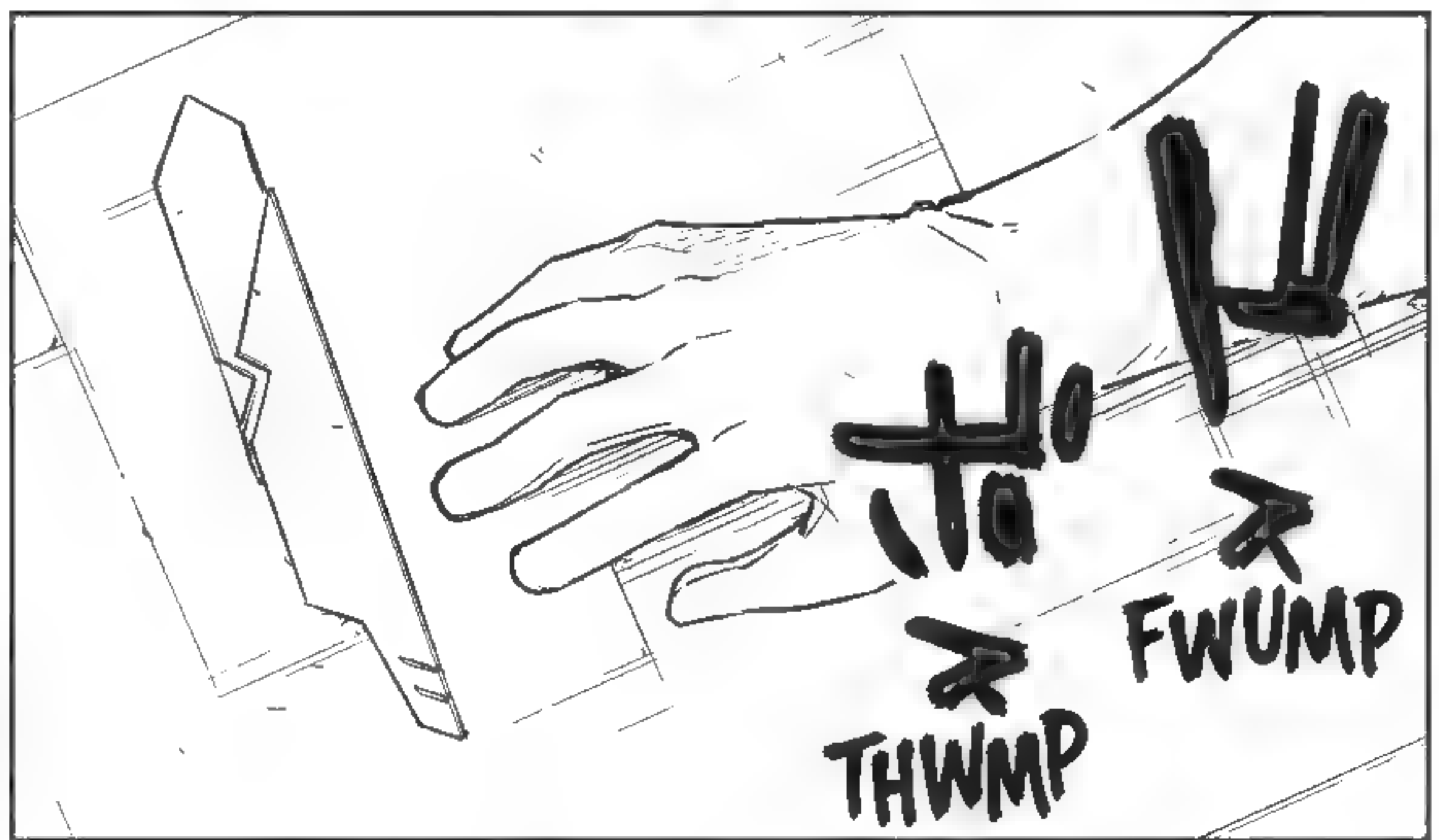
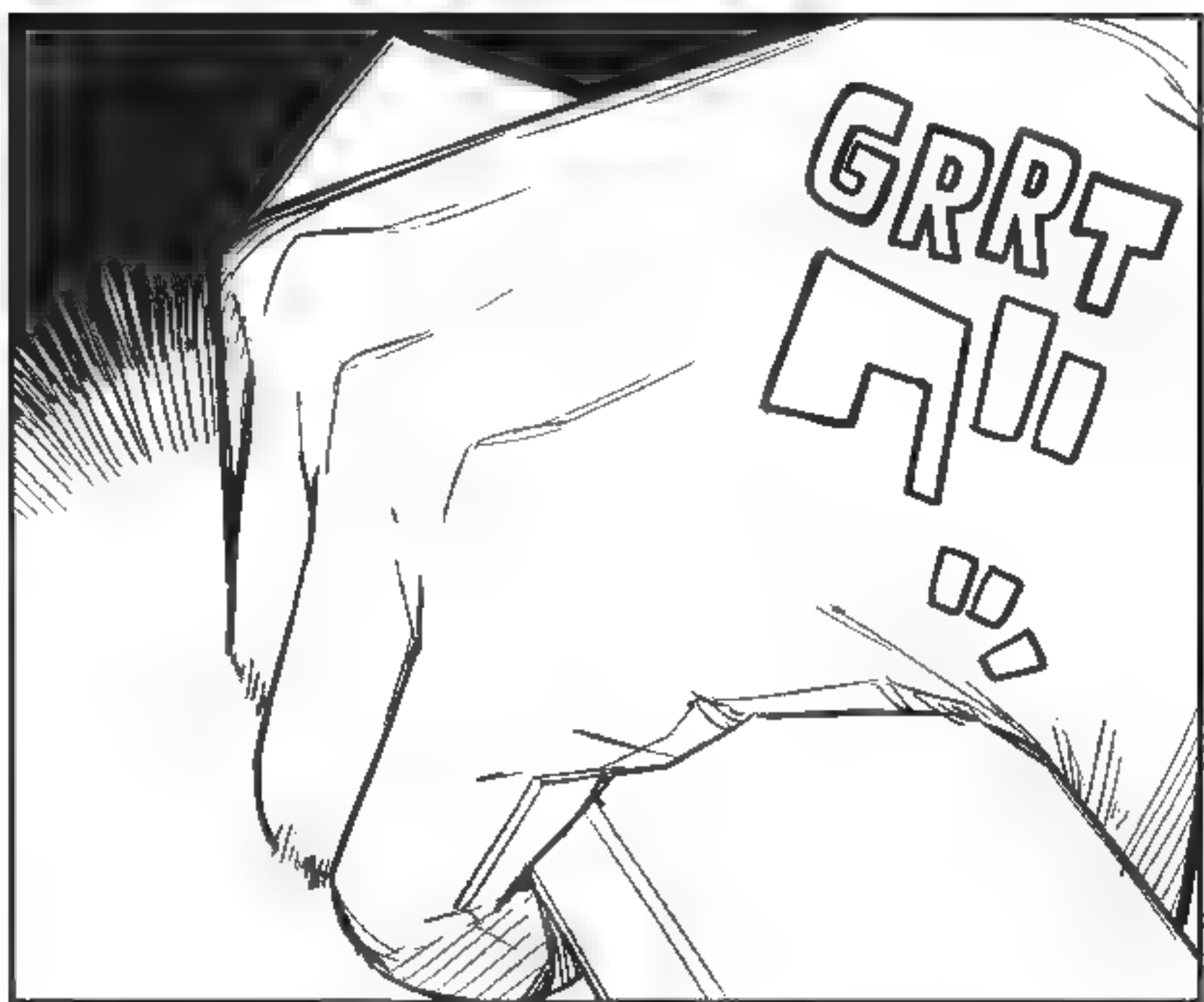
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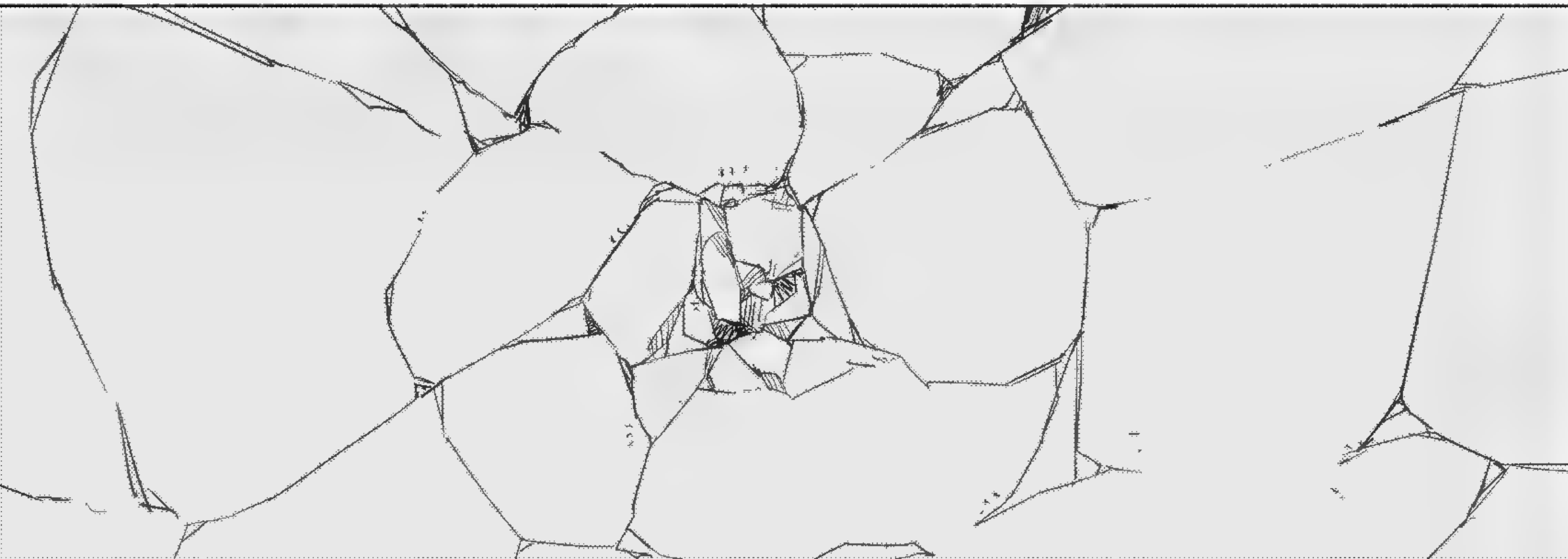
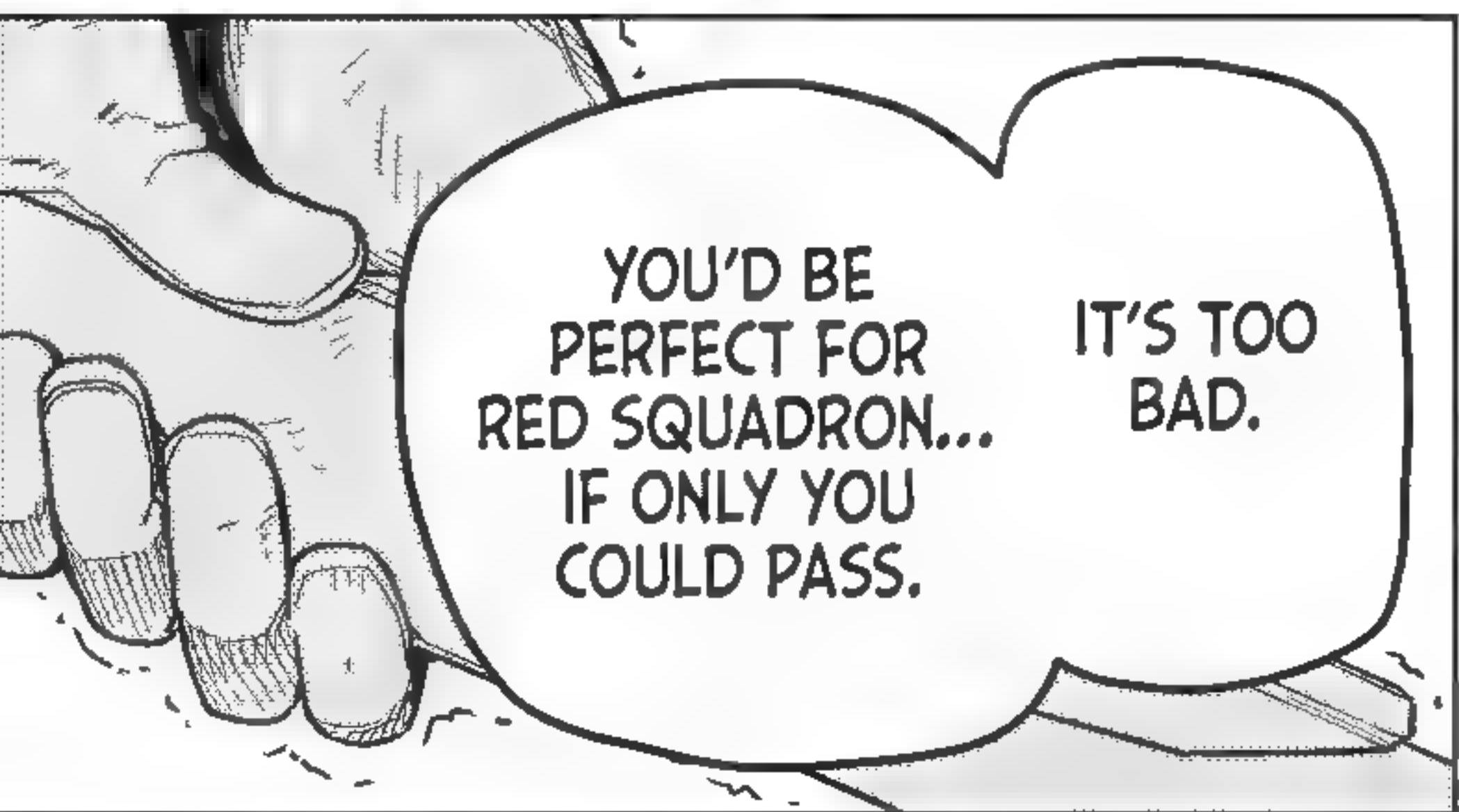


FWOOO
-X-X-X

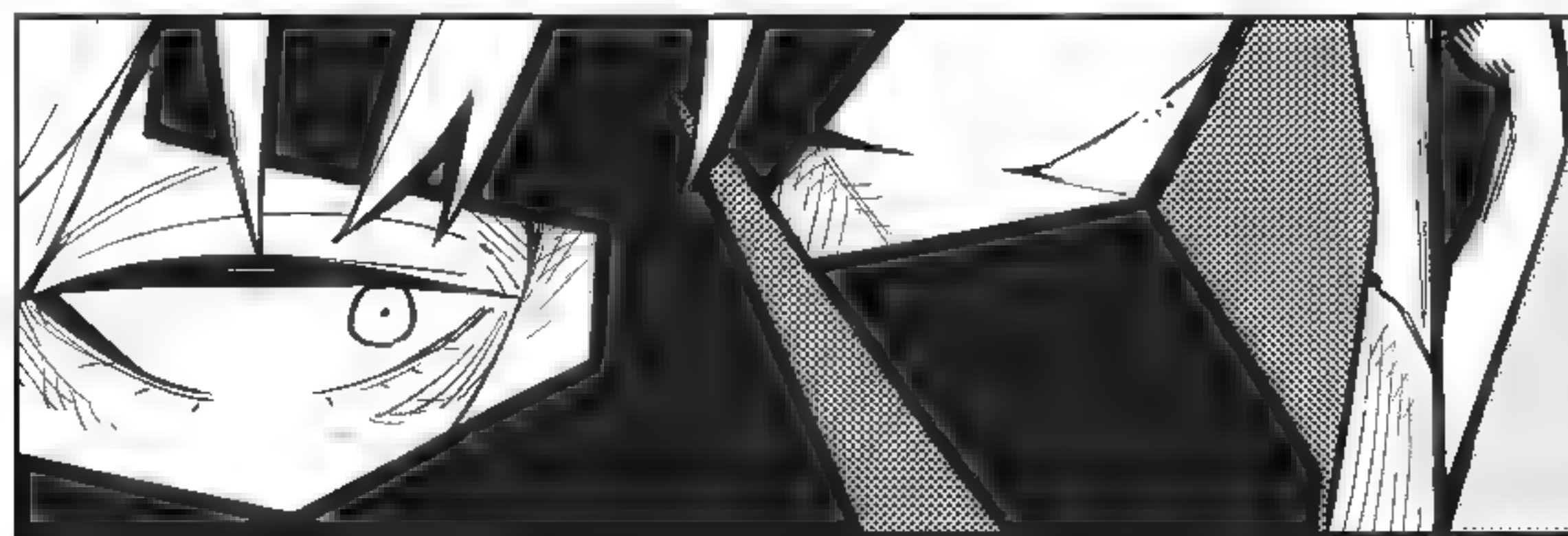
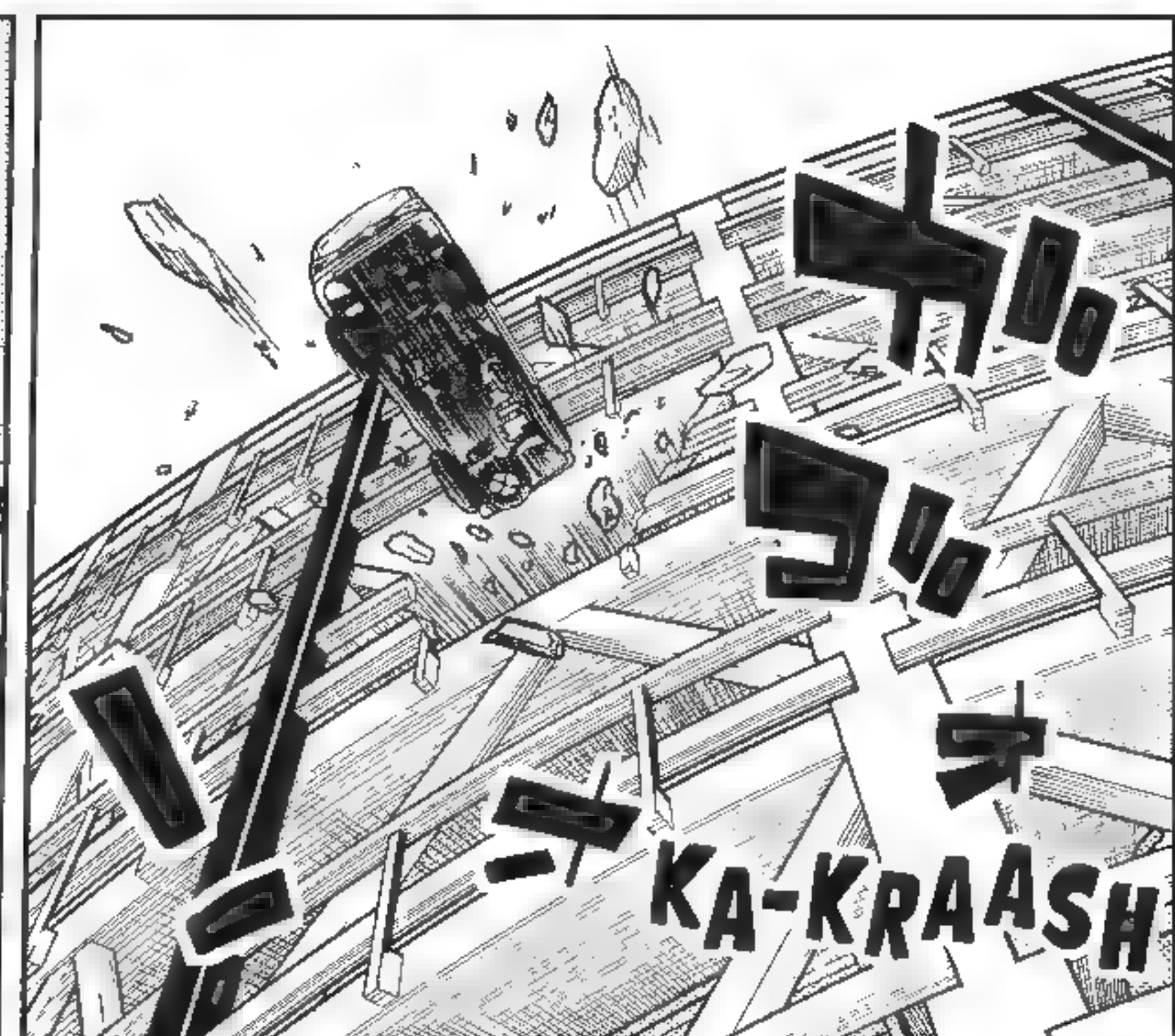
WANG

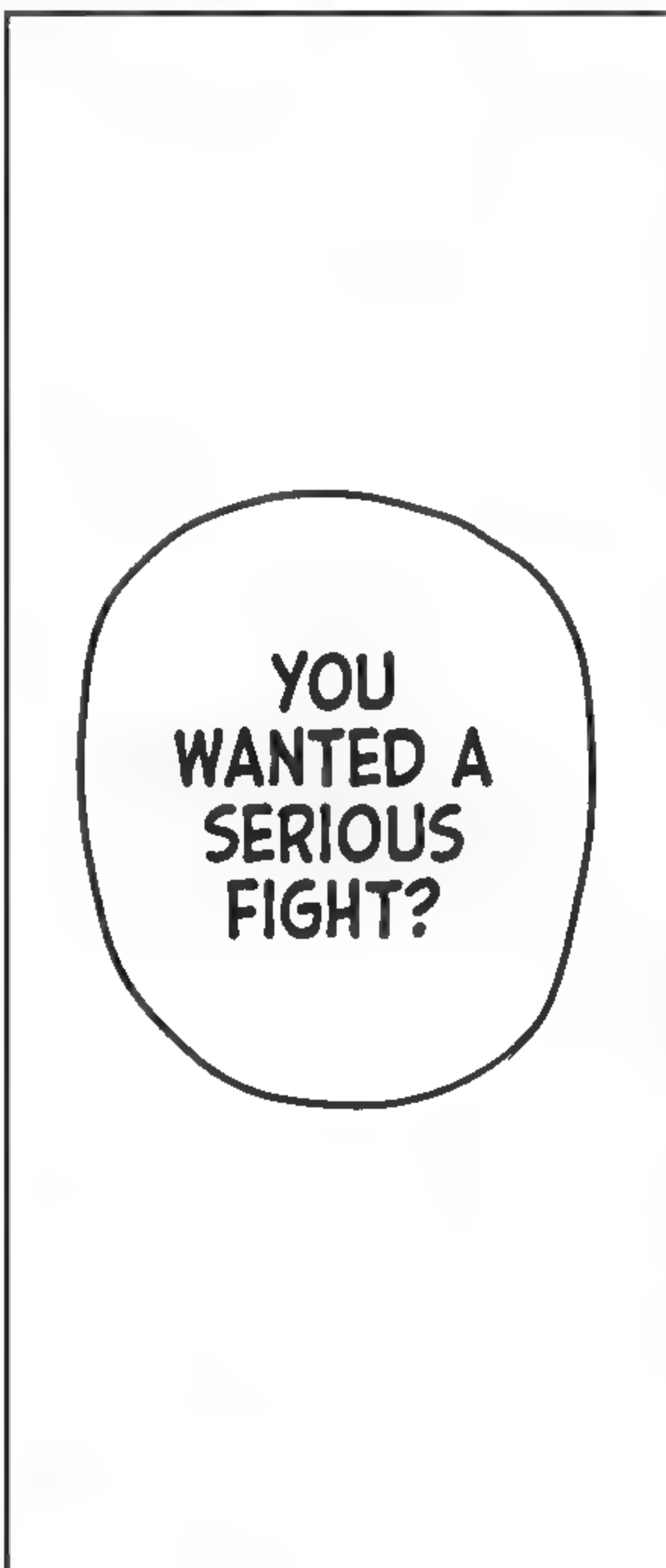












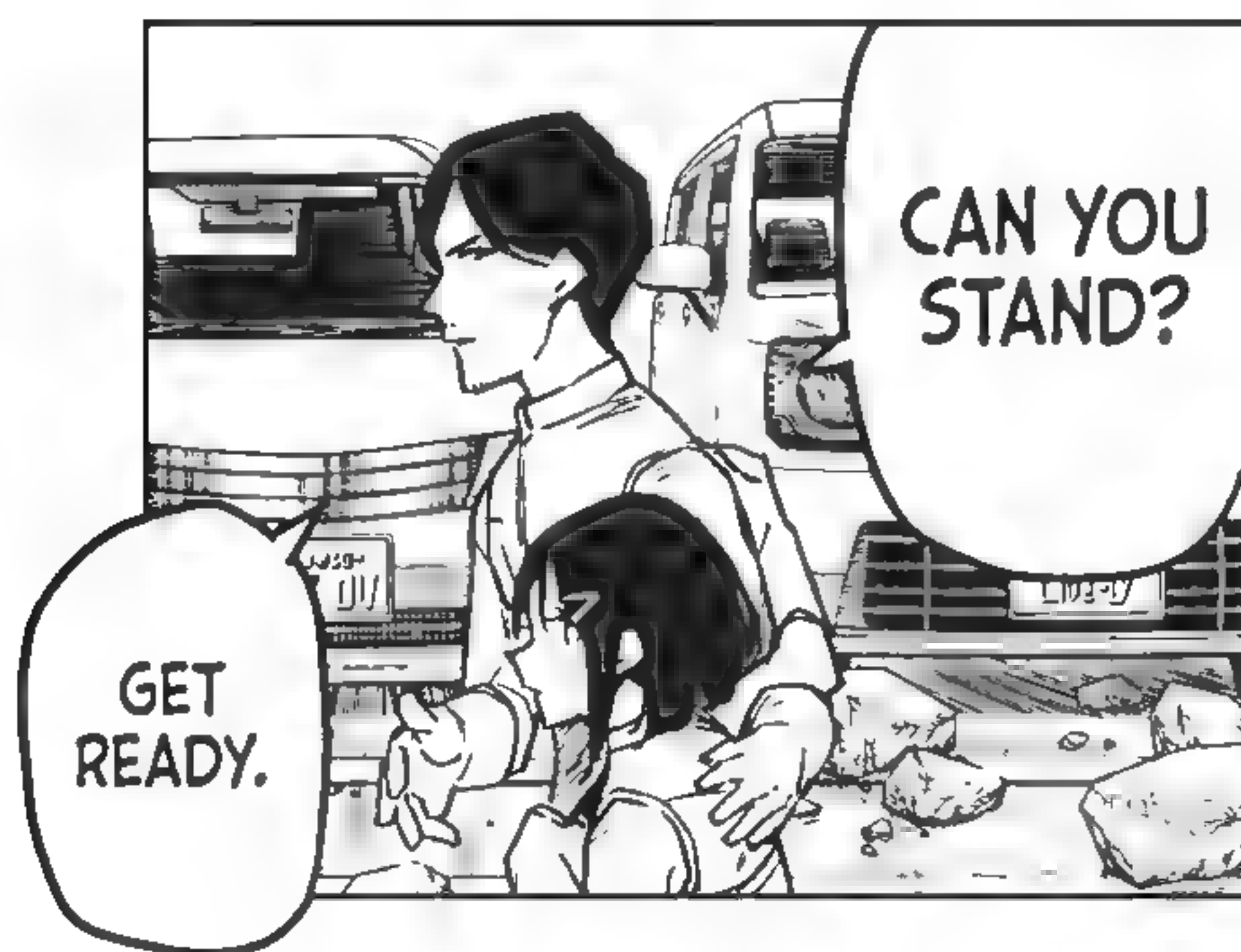


IF YOU'RE
THE LOSER,
YOU MIGHT
AS WELL BE
DUST.

IF YOU'RE
THE WINNER,
ALL IS
FORGIVEN.

IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
WHAT YOU
DO.

ALL THAT
MATTERS IS
WINNING.



GET
READY.

CAN YOU
STAND?

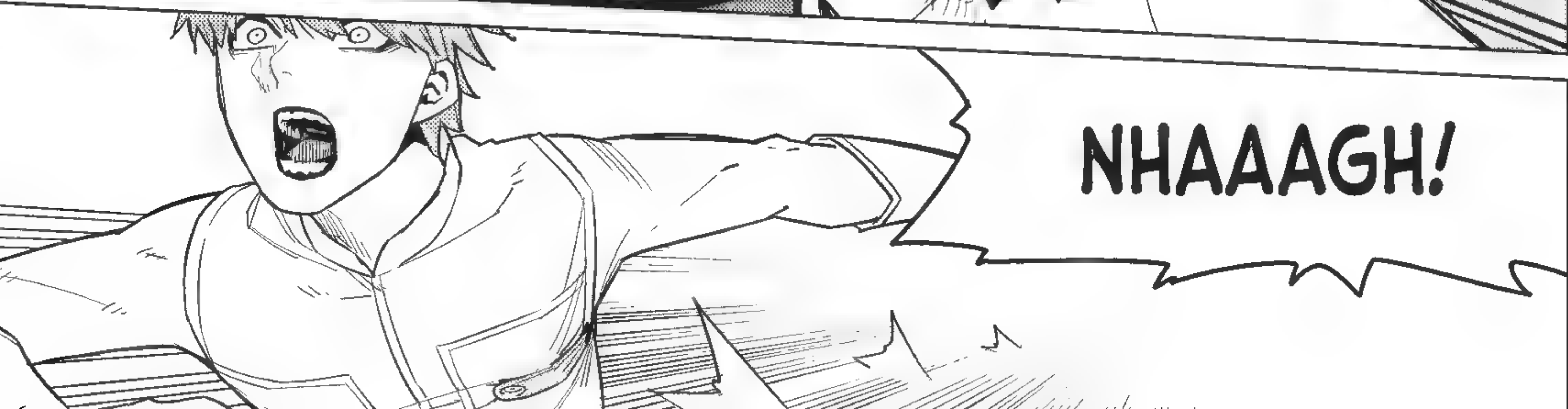
IT'S
SAKURA-
MA.

HER
LITTLE
BROTHER.

HUH.
INTERESTING.

I'VE SEEN
YOUR FACE
SOMEWHERE
BEFORE.







WHAT'RE
YOU TRYING
TO DO?

GO AFTER
THE OTHER
THREE,
TOO!

WHY
ARE YOU
ONLY
GOING
AFTER
ME?!



HE PROBABLY
WANTED HIS
COLORLESS
BUDDIES TO
HELP HIM OUT,
BUT ALL HE'S
DONE IS DIG HIS
OWN GRAVE.

HE KNOWS
HOW TO RUN
HIS MOUTH,
THAT'S ALL.
HE CAN'T
BACK IT UP.



DON'T
GET YOUR
HOPES UP.
HE'S NOTHING
SPECIAL.

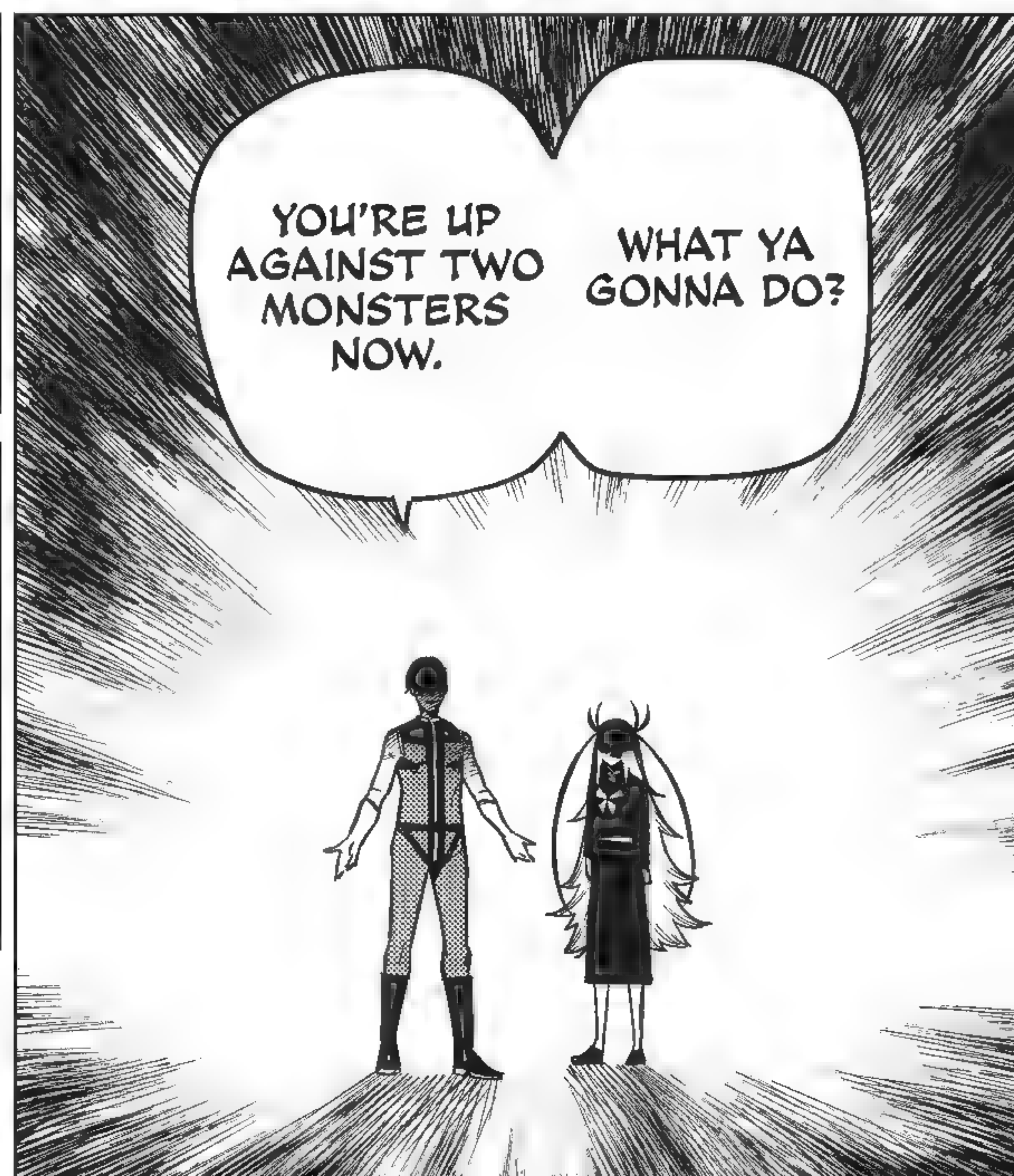
THE
SIGHT OF
YOU PISSES
ME OFF.

STOP RUNNING
AND FACE ME.
WE CAN FIGHT.



SO I
GUESS
THIS ONLY
MAKES
SENSE
AS A
SIMULATED
FIGHT...

'COURSE,
THOSE
DAMNED
FIGHTERS
COME
DOWN IN
PACKS.



YOU'RE UP
AGAINST TWO
MONSTERS
NOW.

WHAT YA
GONNA DO?



BUT
COMPARED
TO THOSE
MONSTERS...

...WE'RE
PROBABLY
A HUNDRED
TIMES MORE
VICIOUS.



YOU'RE
STRONG,
THAT'S
ALL.

YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND
A THING, DO
YOU.

THERE'S
NOTHING
SCARY
ABOUT
YOU.



RUN,
EVERYONE!

WE'LL
SPLIT UP AND
SURROUND
THEM ON ALL
SIDES.



WE'LL
JUST HAVE
TO DO WHAT
WE CAN.

EVEN SO, A
FOUR-ON-TWO
BATTLE IS
NOTHING LIKE
A TWO-ON-
ONE FIGHT.





YOU DON'T
HAVE TO DO
THIS AGAIN
NEXT YEAR.

MUST BE
NICE TO NOT
BE JUNIOR
FIRST RANK.

JUST GIVE
UP THIS
YEAR.

THIS IS
BEYOND YOUR
ABILITIES,
YOU KNOW.

HUH? I'LL
BE SENIOR
FIRST RANK
BY THEN.

DASH
A

THEY'RE
JUST
TOYING
WITH US
NOW...?!

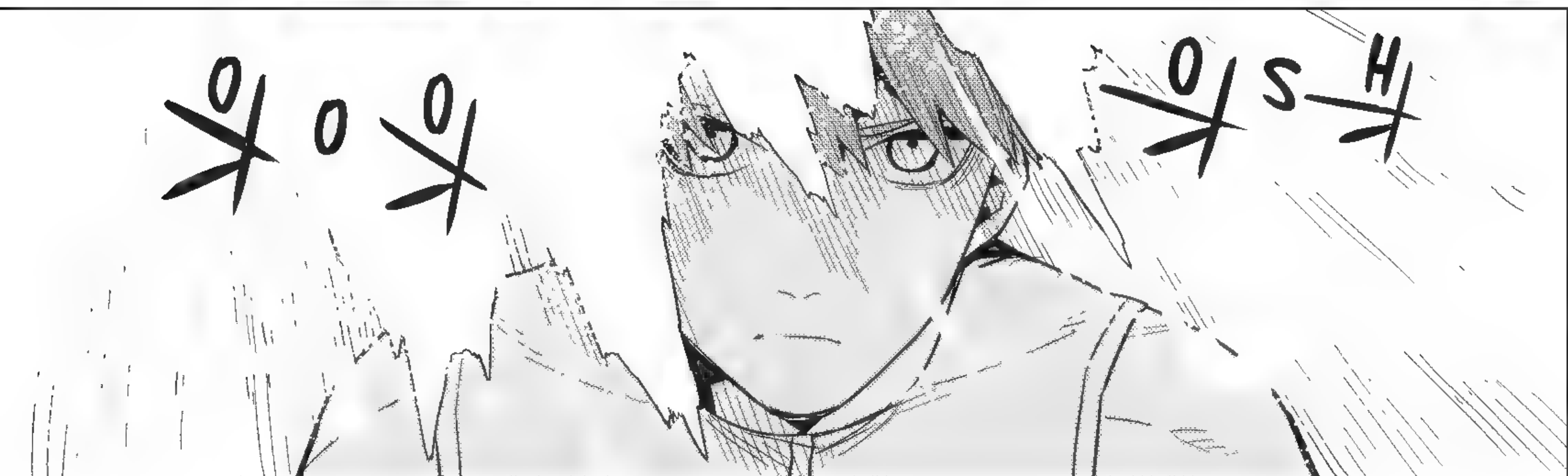
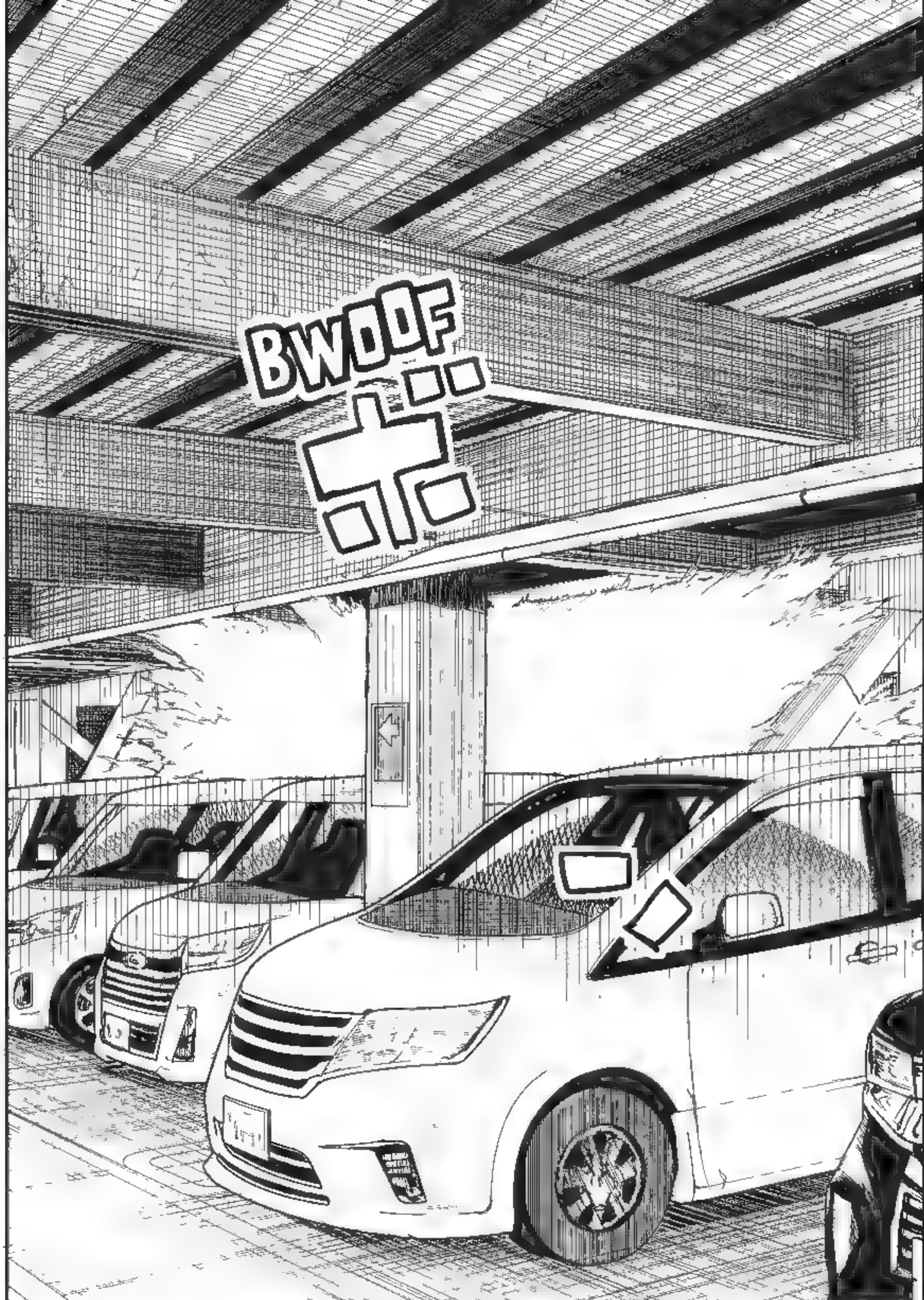
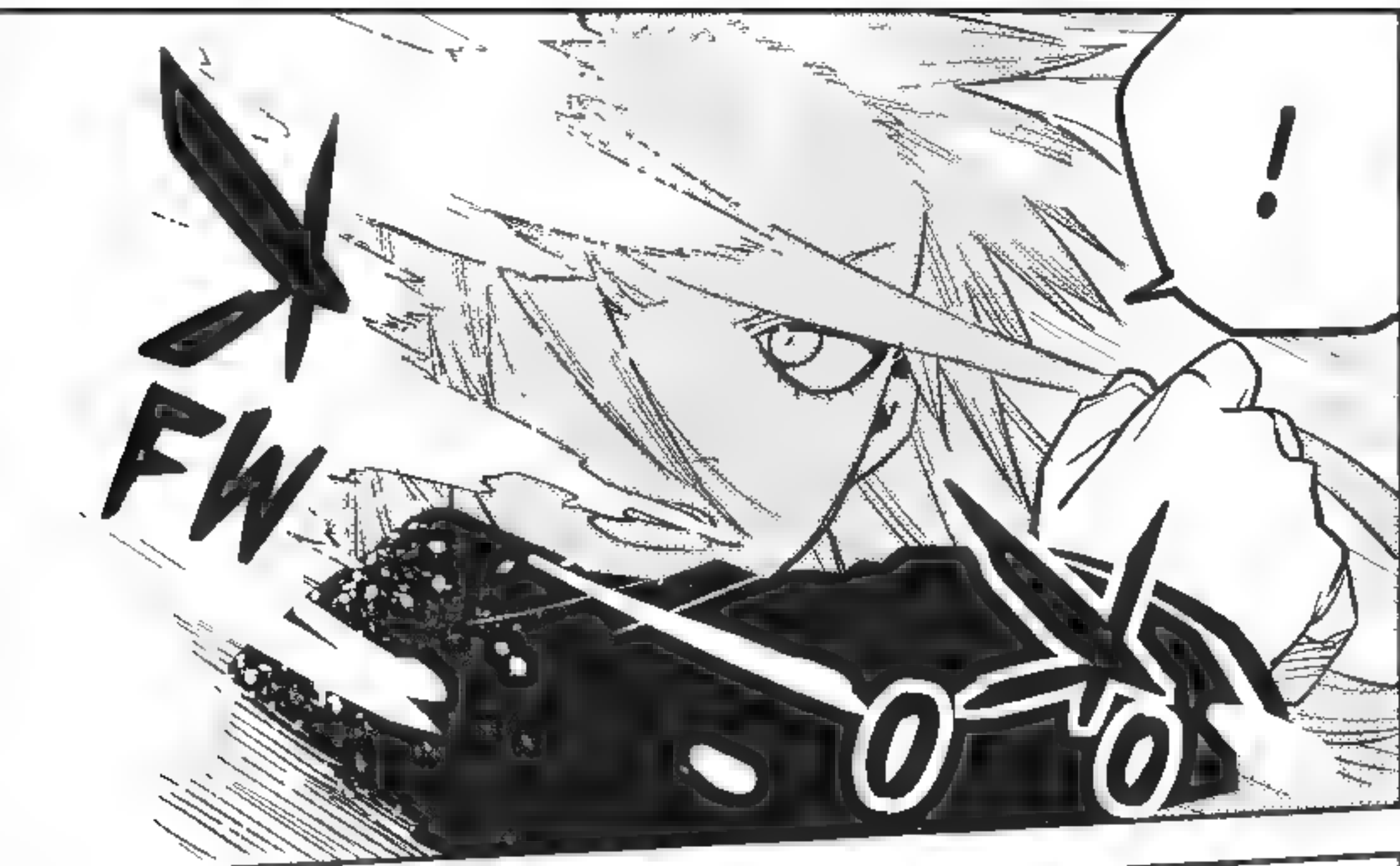
HAH.
SPEAKING
OF *BEYOND*
YOUR
ABILITIES.



POPP

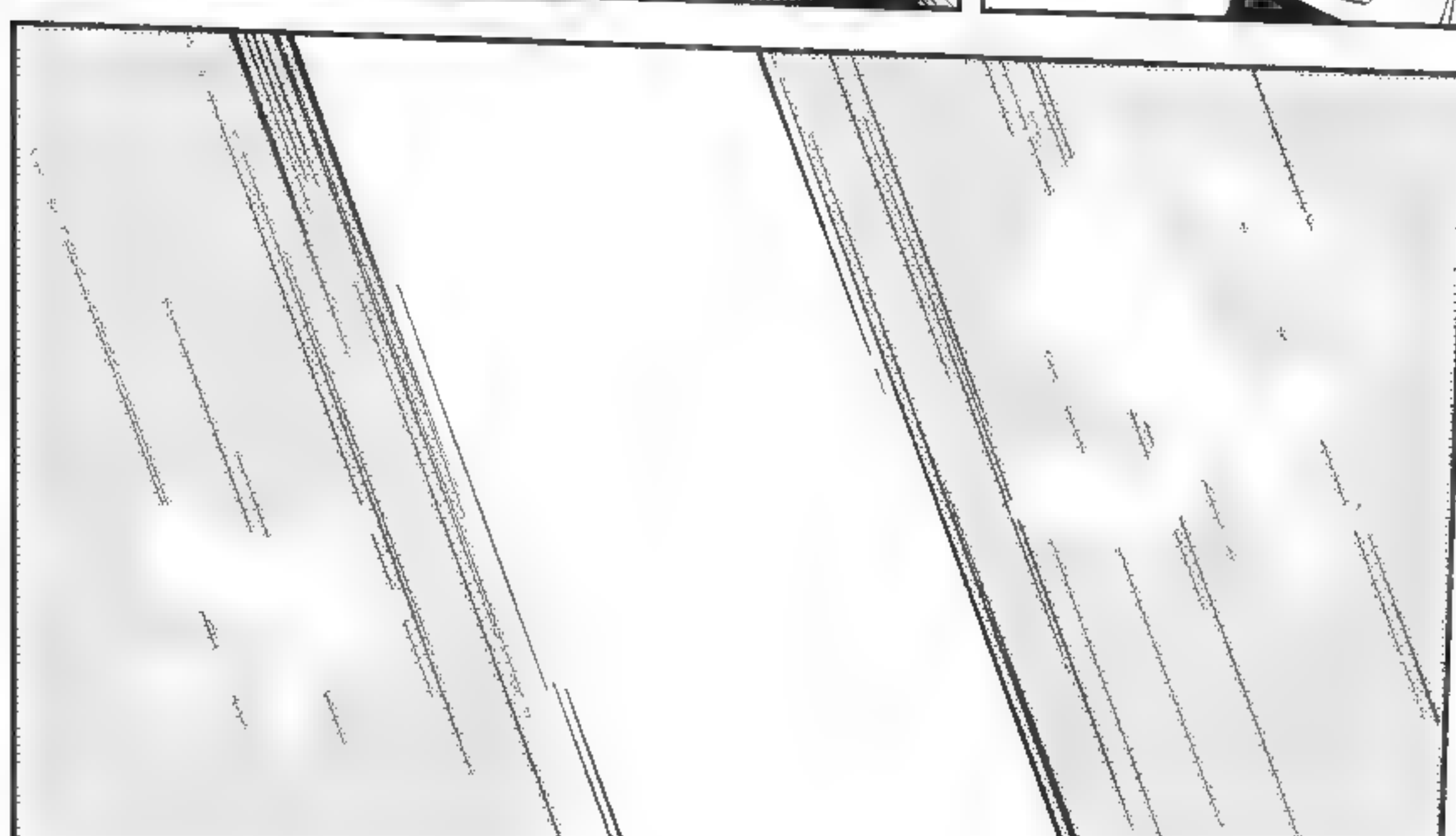
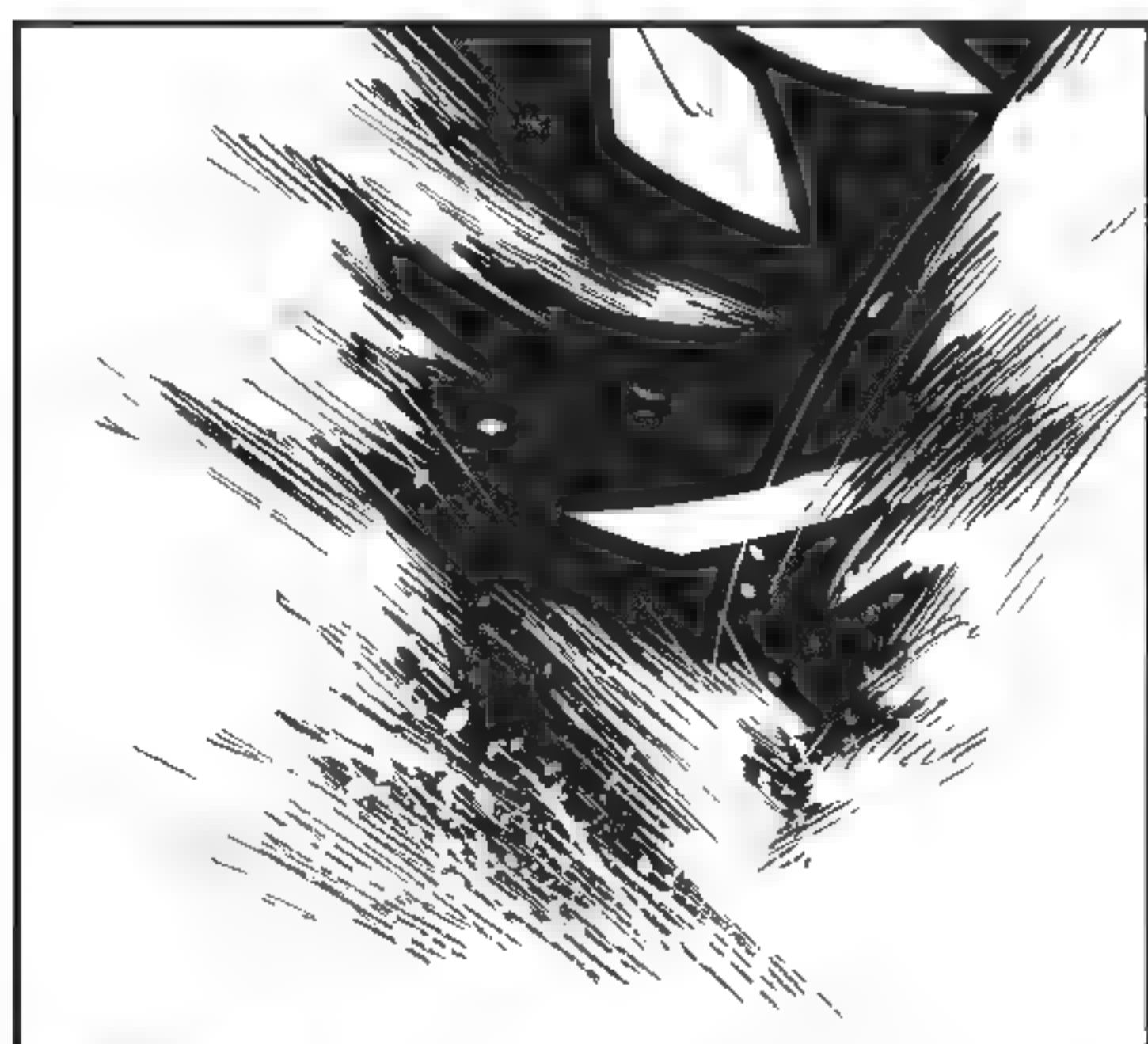
TOSS

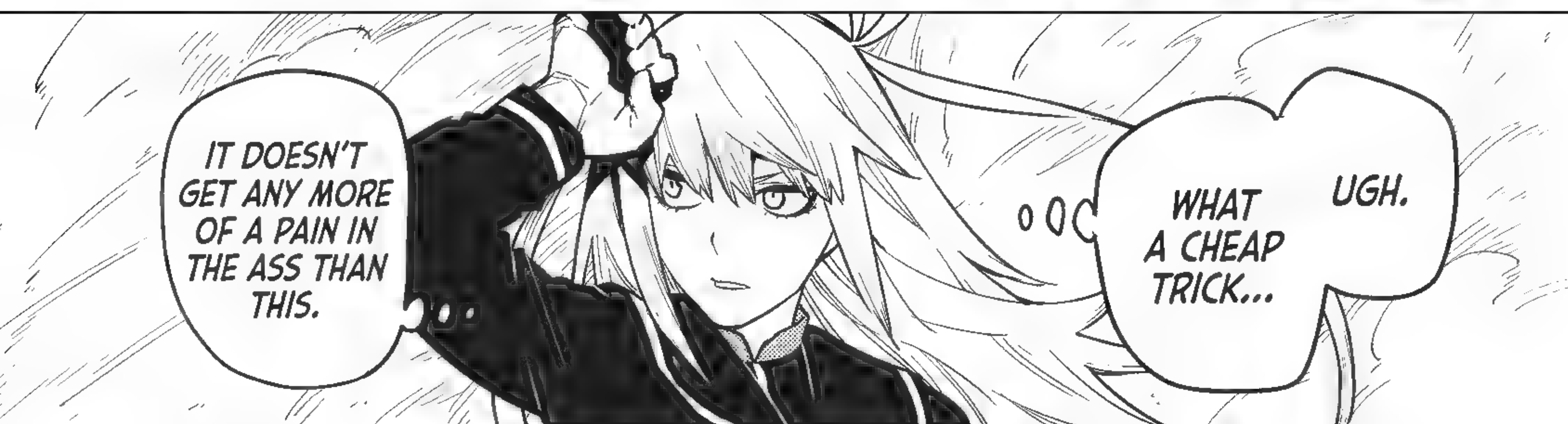
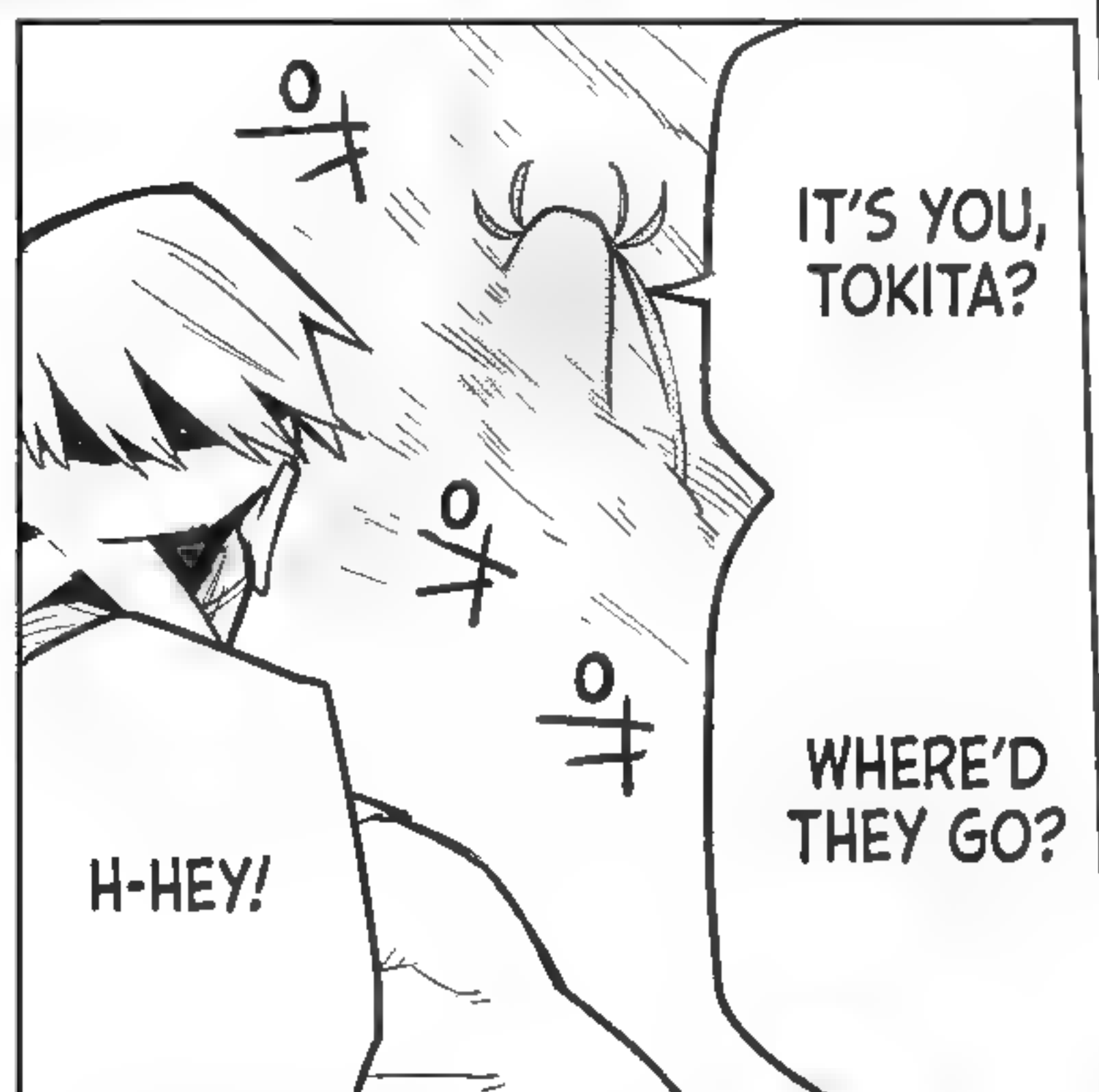
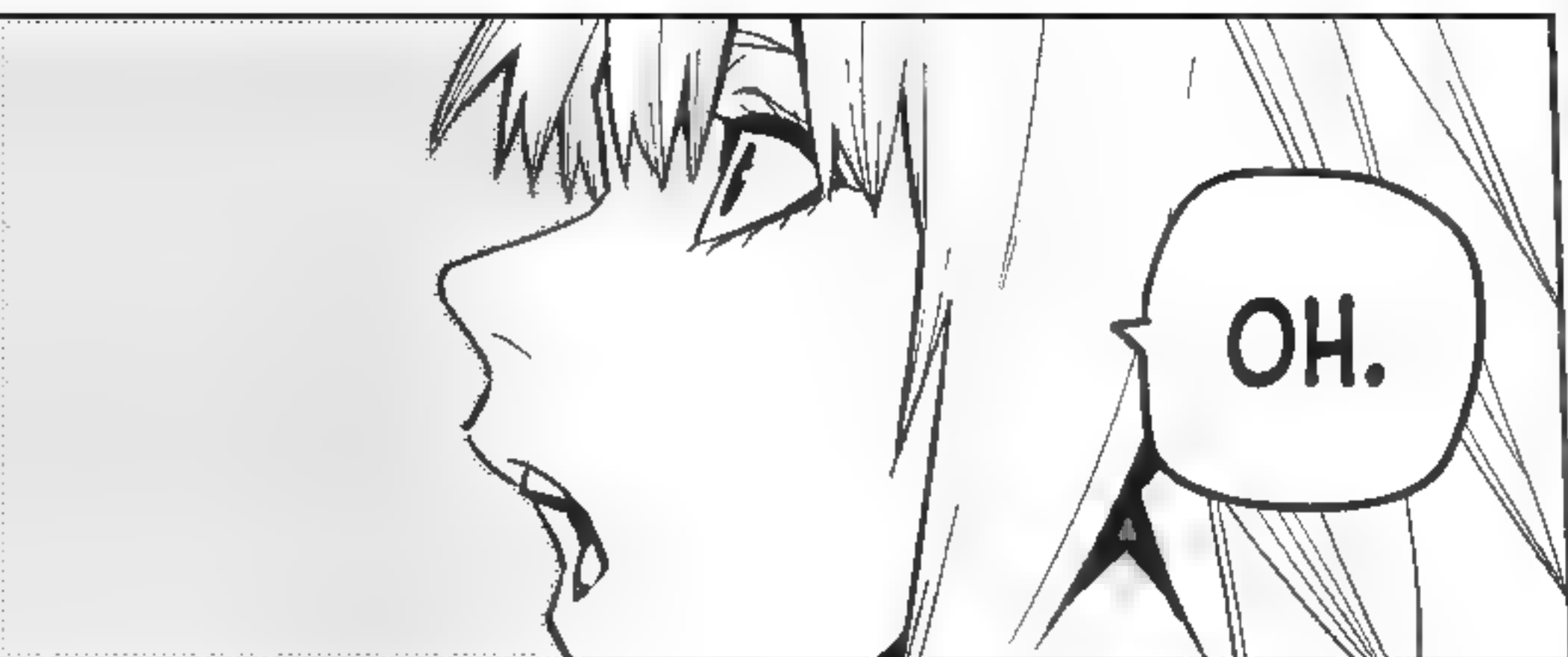
ISHI-
KAWA-
SAN!



NOTHING CAN
OVERCOME HOW
MUCH STRONGER
I AM THAN ALL
OF YOU. THAT'S
ALL I NEED
TO MAKE YOU
SUBMIT.

YOU THINK
I'D TAKE THIS
LITTLE GAME
SERIOUSLY?







UGH.
THEY'RE MAKING THIS SO HARD.



WE SHOULD GET OUTTA HERE, TOO, AND—

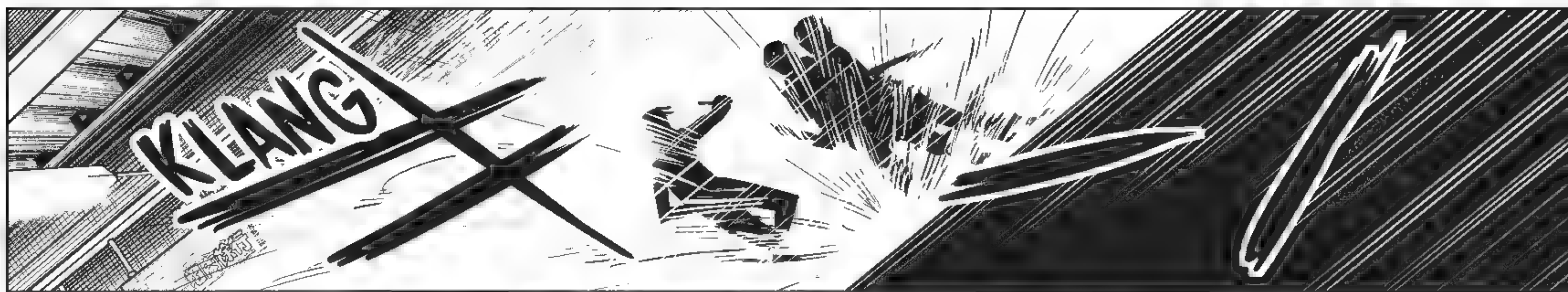


HISUI!
CAN YOU HEAR ME?

THEY'LL BE GONE BY NOW.

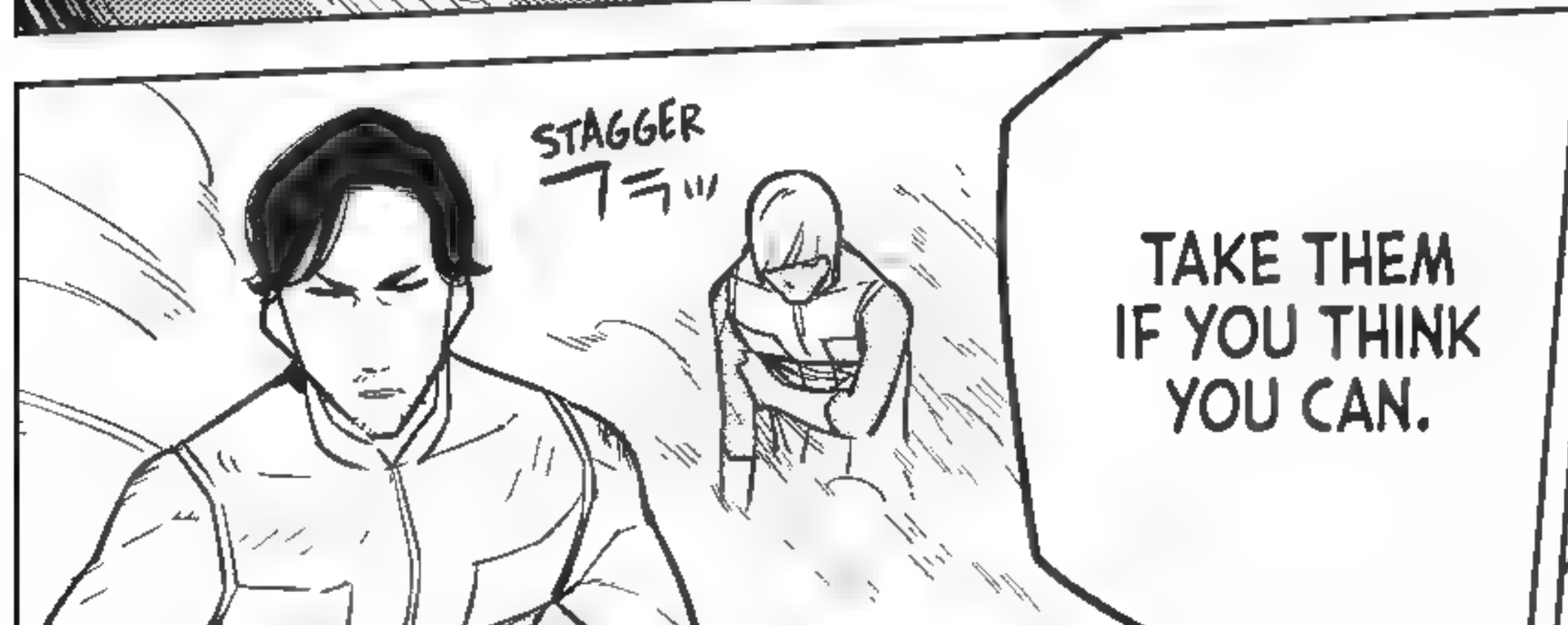


THIS SMOKE ...
IF THEY'RE TRYING TO CAUSE US TO HIT EACH OTHER WITH FRIENDLY FIRE...



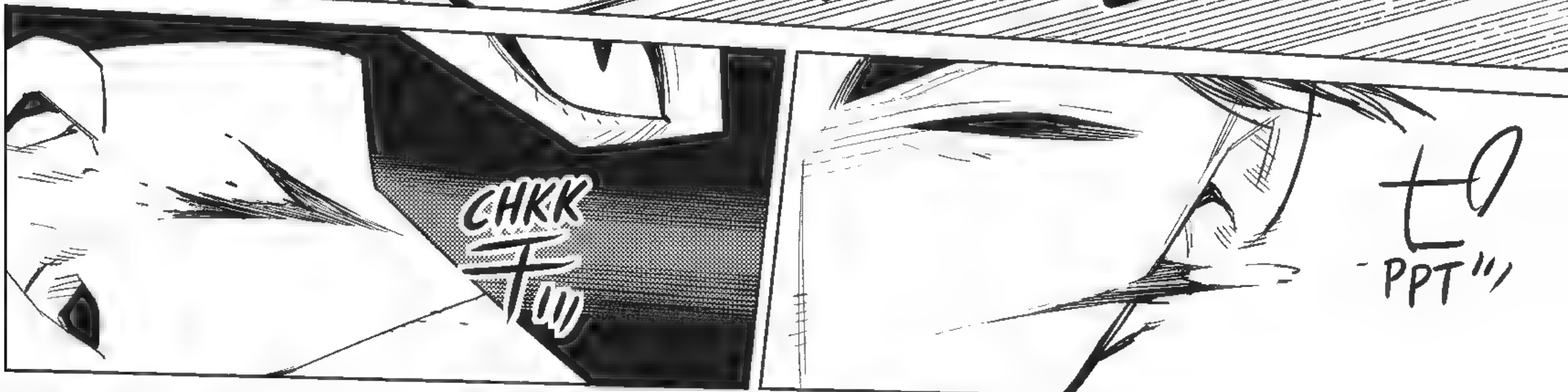
I KNOW HE'S YOUR TARGET, BUT I'LL HELP YOU FOR NOW.
LET'S TAKE HIS KEY HERE AND NOW.

THANKS FOR LETTING US KNOW WHERE YOU WERE.



HE FIGHTS LIKE A FERAL ANIMAL.

WHAT'S DRIVING HIM TO GO SO FAR...?



VERY...
IMPRESSIVE.

YOU DON'T
HAVE WHAT
IT TAKES IF
YOU'RE STILL
COLORLESS
AT THAT AGE.

YOU NEED
TO STOP
DREAMING
ALREADY,
OLD MAN.



TWO
SHOTS
THAT
FAST...?

OOZE
"..."



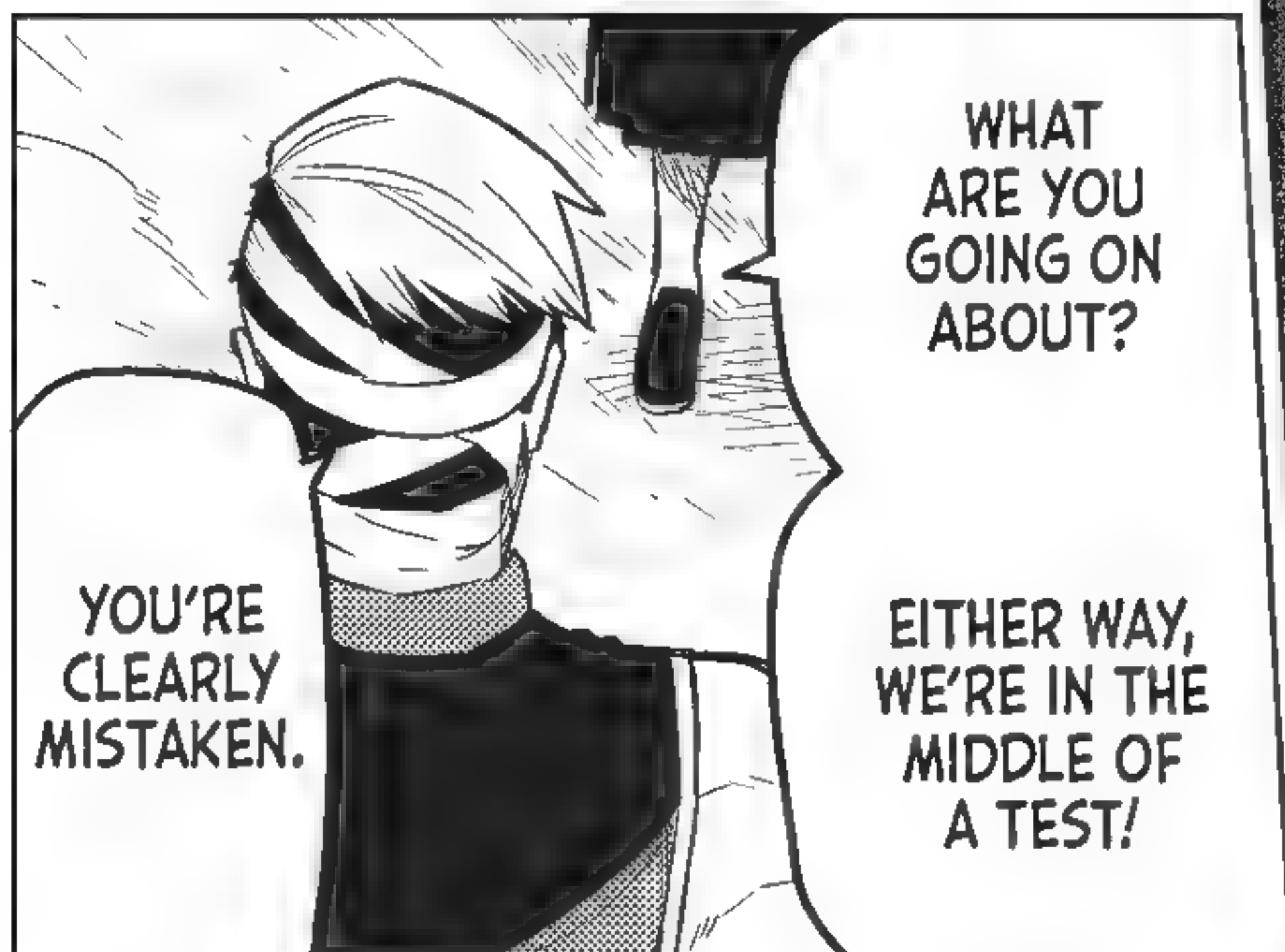
WHOA
THERE.
NICE
SHOT.

NOT
BAD.



...FOR A
COLORLESS
RANGER.





YOU'RE
CLEARLY
MISTAKEN.

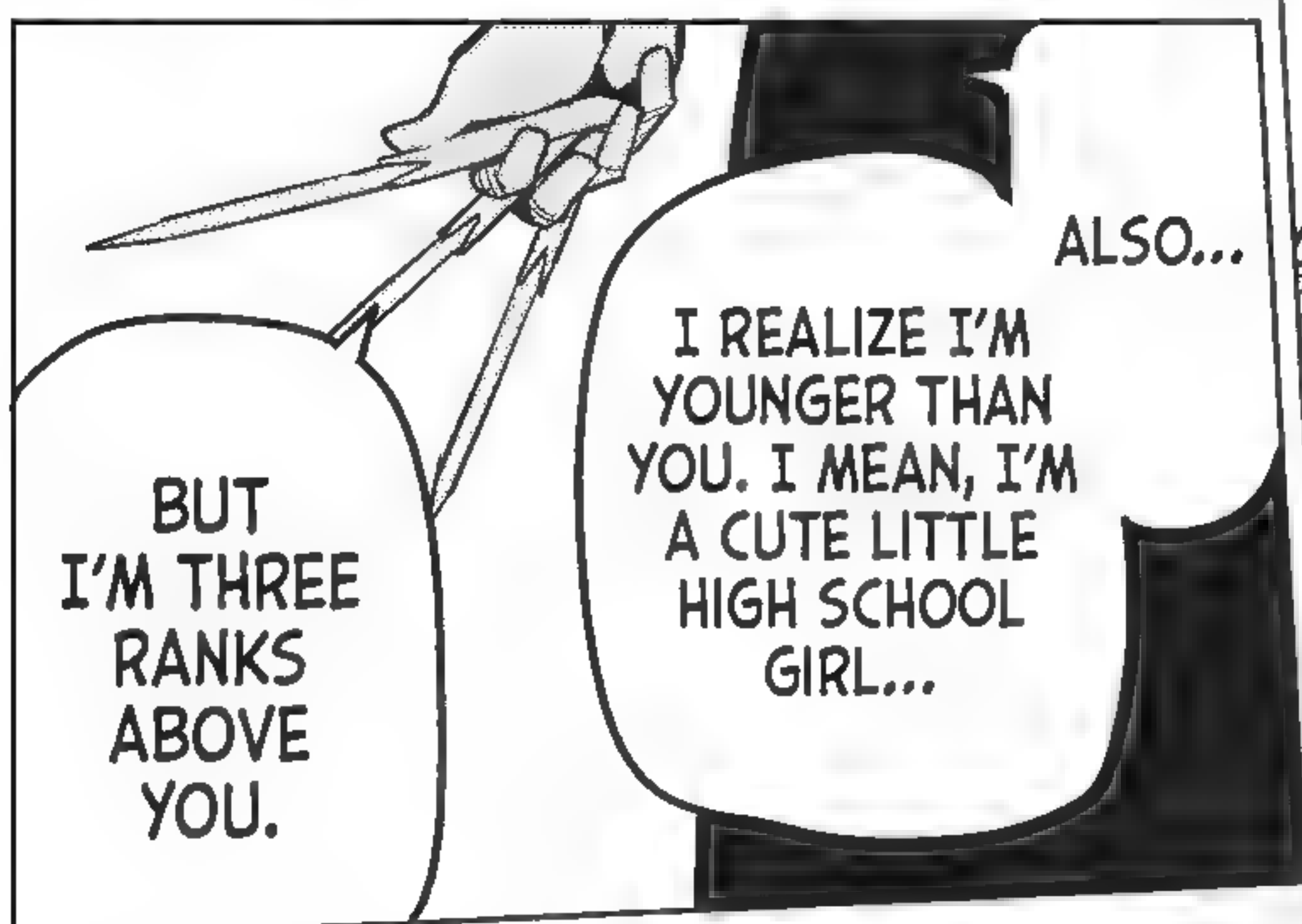
WHAT
ARE YOU
GOING ON
ABOUT?

EITHER WAY,
WE'RE IN THE
MIDDLE OF
A TEST!



GET
A GRIP,
HISUI.

...



BUT
I'M THREE
RANKS
ABOVE
YOU.

ALSO...

I REALIZE I'M
YOUNGER THAN
YOU. I MEAN, I'M
A CUTE LITTLE
HIGH SCHOOL
GIRL...



WHAT...?!

IS SHE
SERIOUS...?!



YOU'RE
A PAIN
IN THE
ASS.

I'M
TAKING
CARE
OF YOU
FIRST.



SHWOOP

SHOW
SOME
RESPECT,
PUNK!



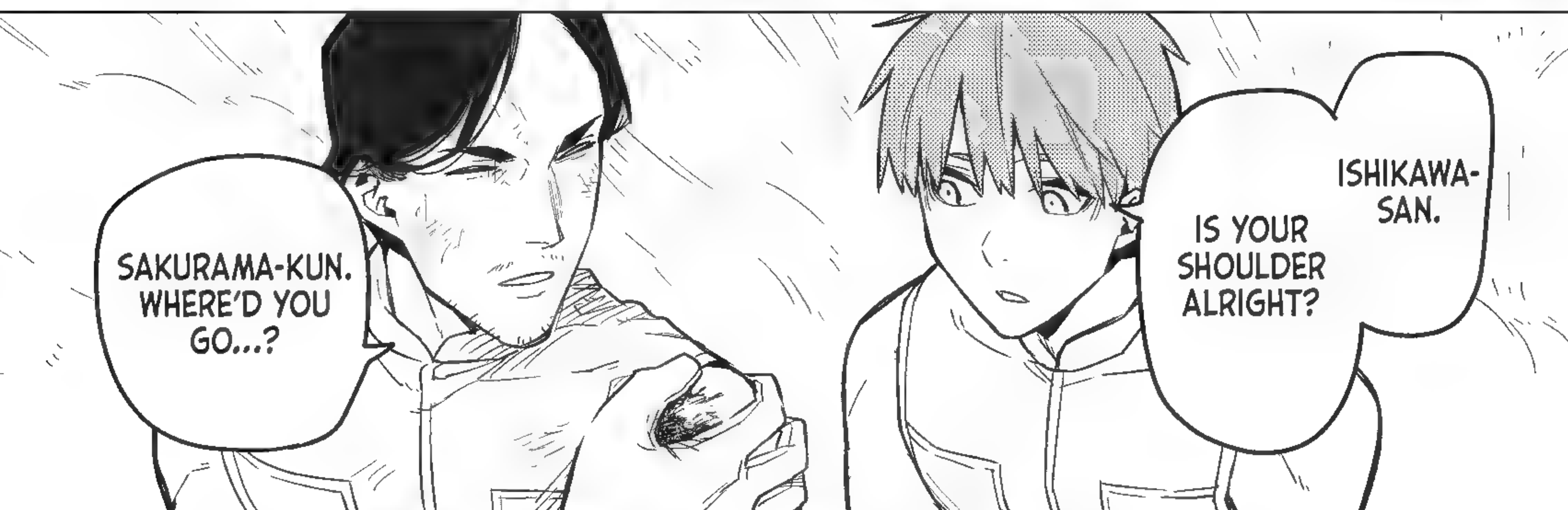
WAIT...
WHO ARE
THEY
FIGHTING...?

I'M NOT
SURE WHY, BUT
IT SEEMS THE
MONSTERS ARE
FIGHTING ONE
ANOTHER...



HEY!

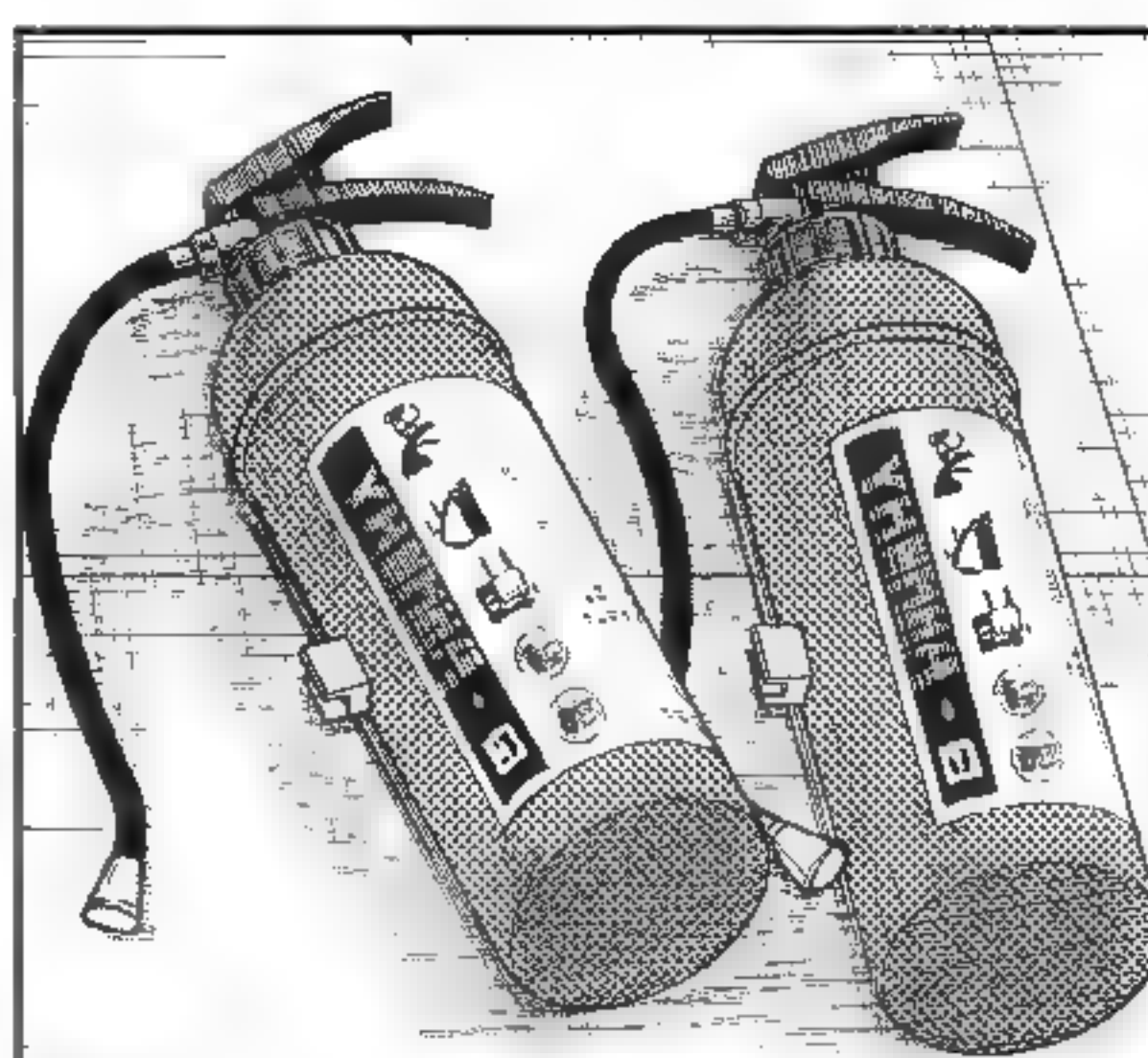
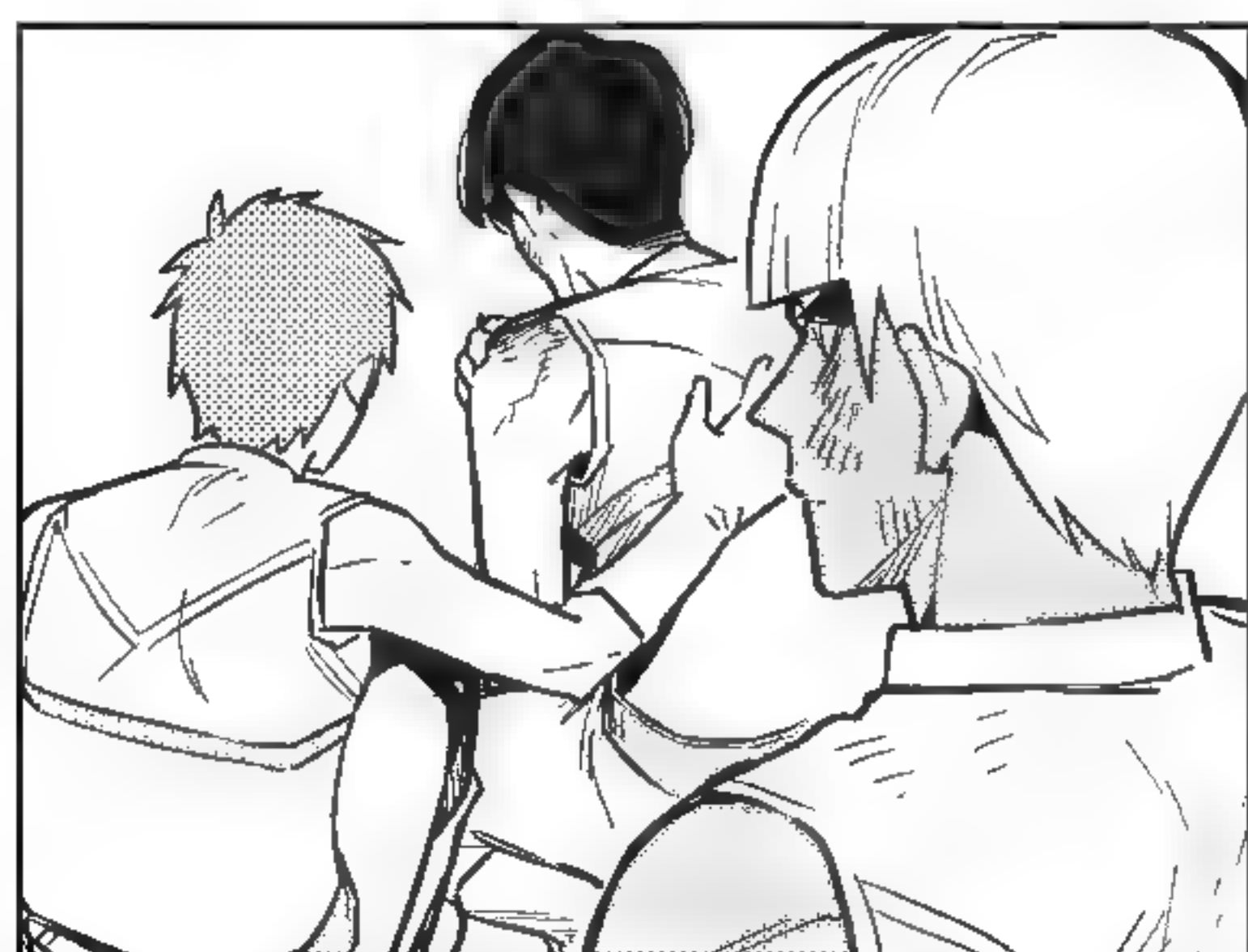
WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING?!



SAKURAMA-KUN.
WHERE'D YOU
GO...?

IS YOUR
SHOULDER
ALRIGHT?

ISHIKAWA-
SAN.



COULD
YOU USE
THEM IF THE
SMOKESCREEN
STARTS TO
FADE?

I BROUGHT
EXTRA FIRE
EXTIN-
GUISHERS.



WAS THIS
SITUATION
PART OF
YOUR PLAN
TOO?

WHAT?
HUH...?

USUKUBO-SAN.
CAN YOU DRAW?

HUH?
YEAH...
ARE YOU FINISHED?

TAP
TAP

WELL...
I'M NOT THAT CONFIDENT IN THESE...
I GUESS...
IT TOOK TIME TO FIND PAPER AND A PEN, BUT...

HEY!
NO, WAIT!
THANKS! I'LL TAKE THEM OFF YOUR HANDS!

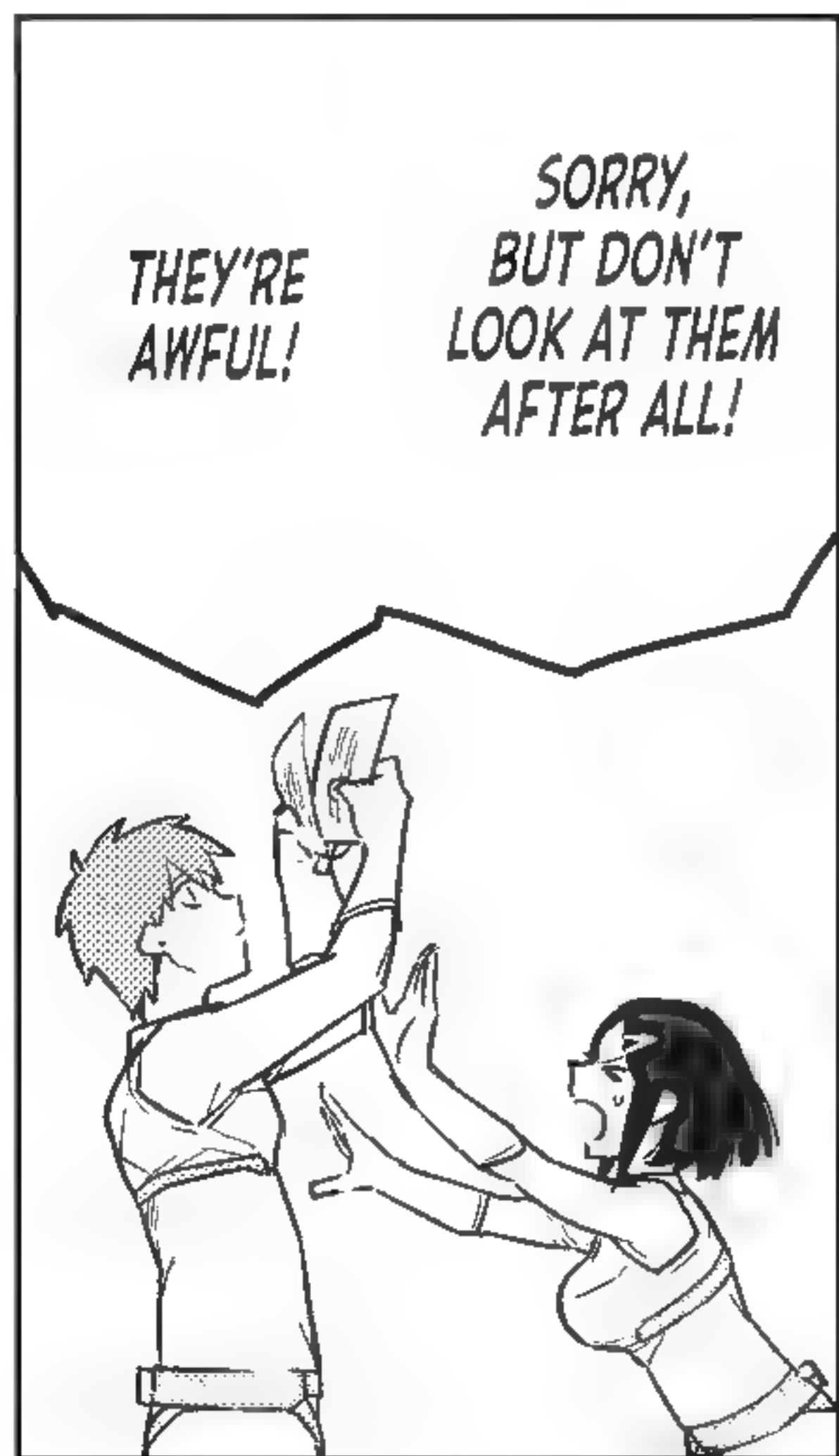
?
BUT NO, I GUESS I COULD MAKE IT WORK IN THIS SMOKESCREEN EVEN IF I LOOK A BIT DISTORTED...
REALLY...?



THE ROUGH
SKETCHES WERE
ALL OFF BECAUSE
I DREW THEM IN
A HURRY!

LET ME
DRAW THEM
AGAIN!

AND THE LINES
ARE SLOPPY,
TOO, I'M SO
EMBARRASSED!



THEY'RE
AWFUL!

SORRY,
BUT DON'T
LOOK AT THEM
AFTER ALL!



WHAT'RE
YOU GOING
TO DO WITH
THOSE?

SAKURAMA-
KUN.



USUKUBO-SAN,
YOU OUGHT TO QUIT
THE RANGER FORCE
AND BECOME AN
ARTIST INSTEAD.



I...DON'T
REALLY KNOW
HOW TO FEEL
ABOUT THAT.

THEY DO.
A LOT.

BUT...
DO THEY
HELP...?





I'M
CHARGING
IN. FOLLOW
ME.

HEY!
ARE YOU
TRYING TO
GET A HEAD
START ON
ME?

WHATEVER,
LET'S GO!

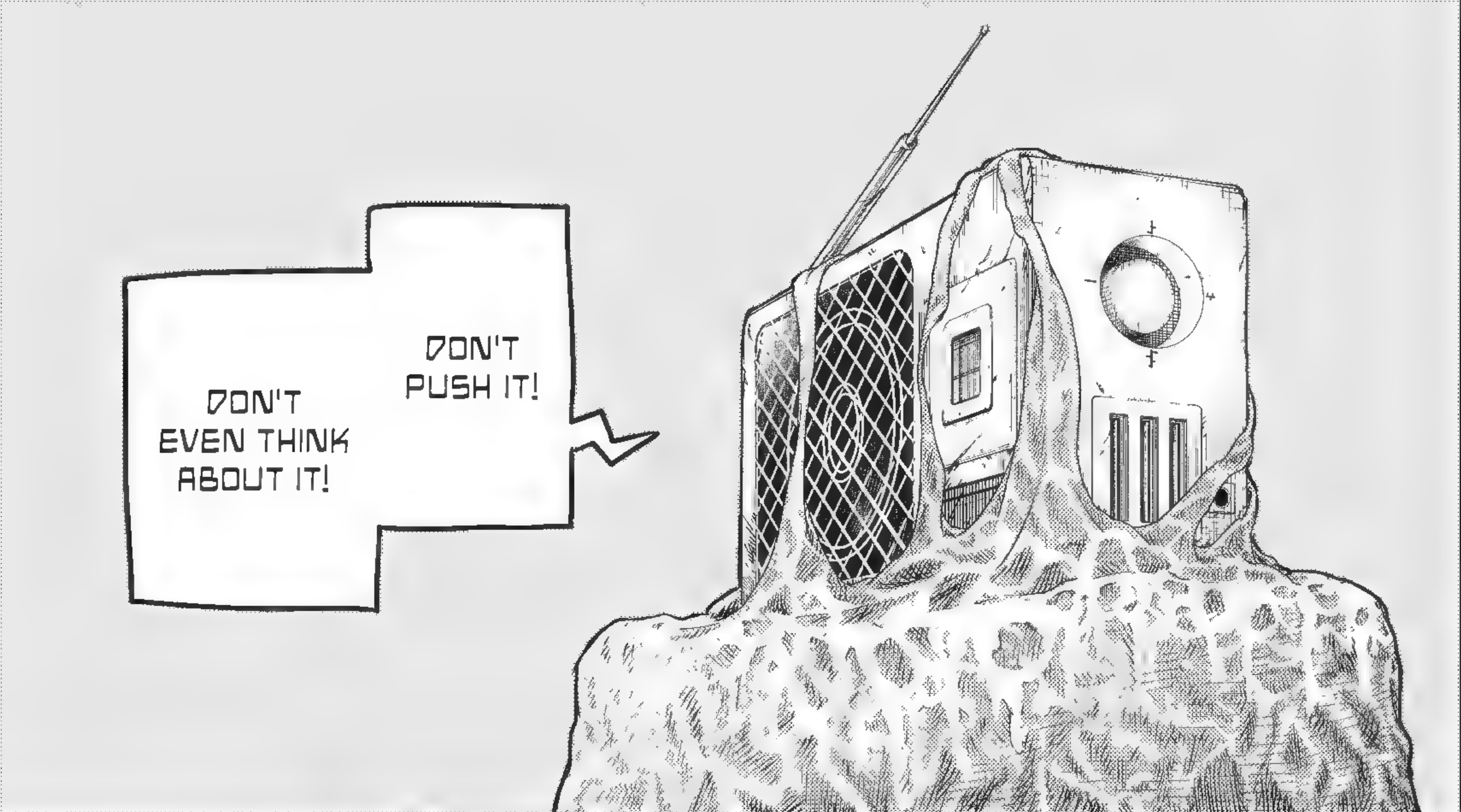
YOU'RE
WOUNDED.
I SHOULD
TAKE THE
LEAD.

NO, YOU
FOLLOW
ME!



I'M GLAD.
SEEMS THEY
HAVEN'T BROKEN
YOUR SPIRIT.

THE
ONLY THING
BROKEN
HERE IS MY
BONES.



DON'T
EVEN THINK
ABOUT IT!

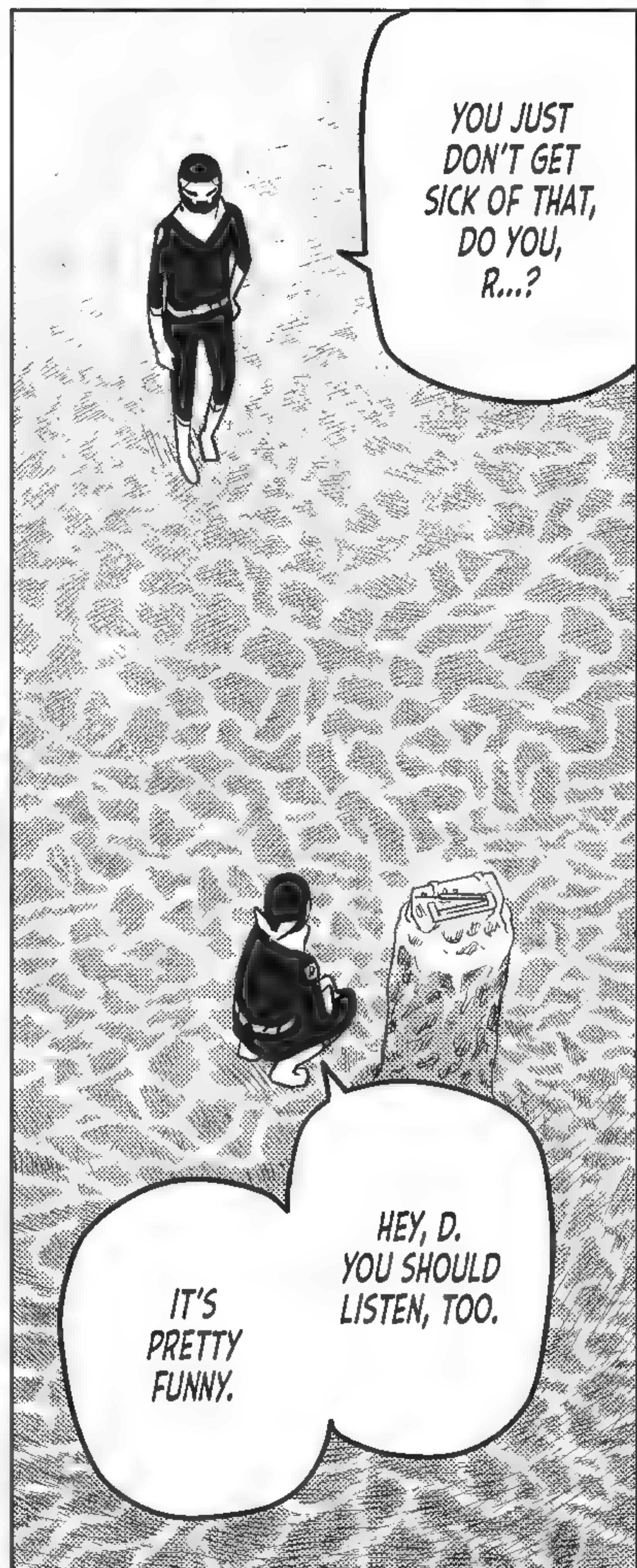
DON'T
PUSH IT!



IT'S THE
SAME ROUTINE
EVERY DAY.

I CAN'T
BELIEVE THE SAME
SURFACE-DWELLERS
THAT ATTACK
US ARE THAT
EASYGOING.

SO
STUPID.



YOU JUST
DON'T GET
SICK OF THAT,
DO YOU,
R...?



I THOUGHT
I SAID
DON'T
PUSH IT!



...THEY'VE
GOT RULES
WE DON'T
HAVE.

THE THING IS,
IF YOU LISTEN
CLOSELY...

HAHA!

HEY, D.
YOU SHOULD
LISTEN, TOO.

IT'S
PRETTY
FUNNY.

THAT'LL BE
THE MOST
EFFECTIVE
MOVE!

DID YOU
HEAR ME?
I SAID GO
AROUND
TO PINCH
THEM!

HOW AM
I SUPPOSED
TO DO THAT
WHEN YOU'RE
CHARGING AT
THEM AT FULL
SPEED?

THEN
YOU GO
AROUND.

MAYBE I
SHOULD
STAB HIM
FIRST?

YOU'RE
JUST
SLOW,
THAT'S
ALL.

I CAN'T WAIT
TO GIVE YOU
A BEATDOWN
AFTER THAT,
SHION.

NO,
FIGHTER D.
PUT UP
WITH IT.

YOU ARE A
GREAT AND
MAGNANIMOUS
MONSTER.

WORKING
TOGETHER TO
GET THAT KEY
FROM TOKITA
COMES FIRST.

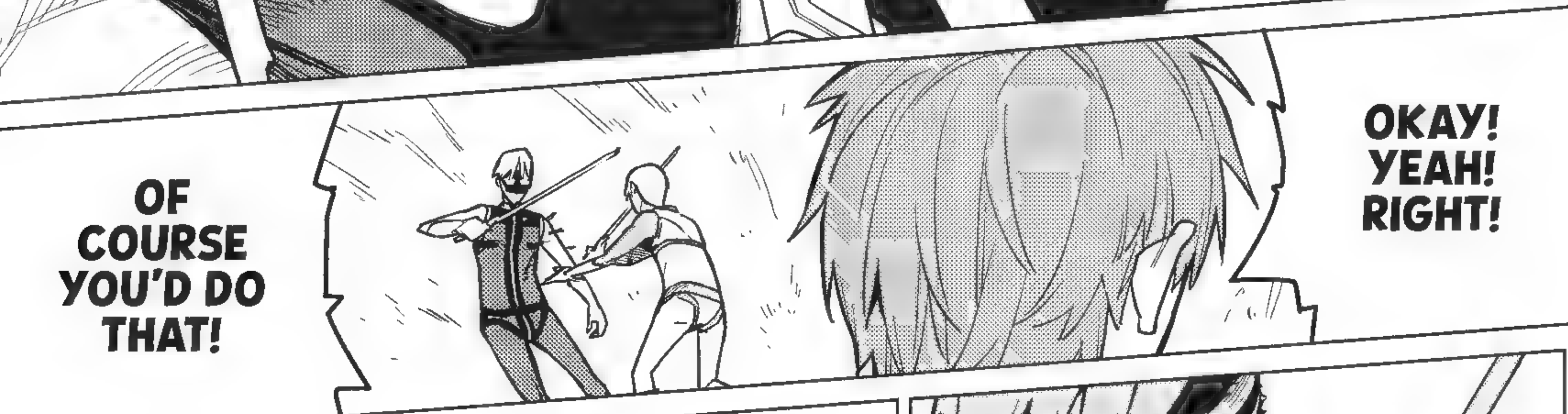
SURFACE-DWELLERS
ARE SO HARD TO
UNDERSTAND.

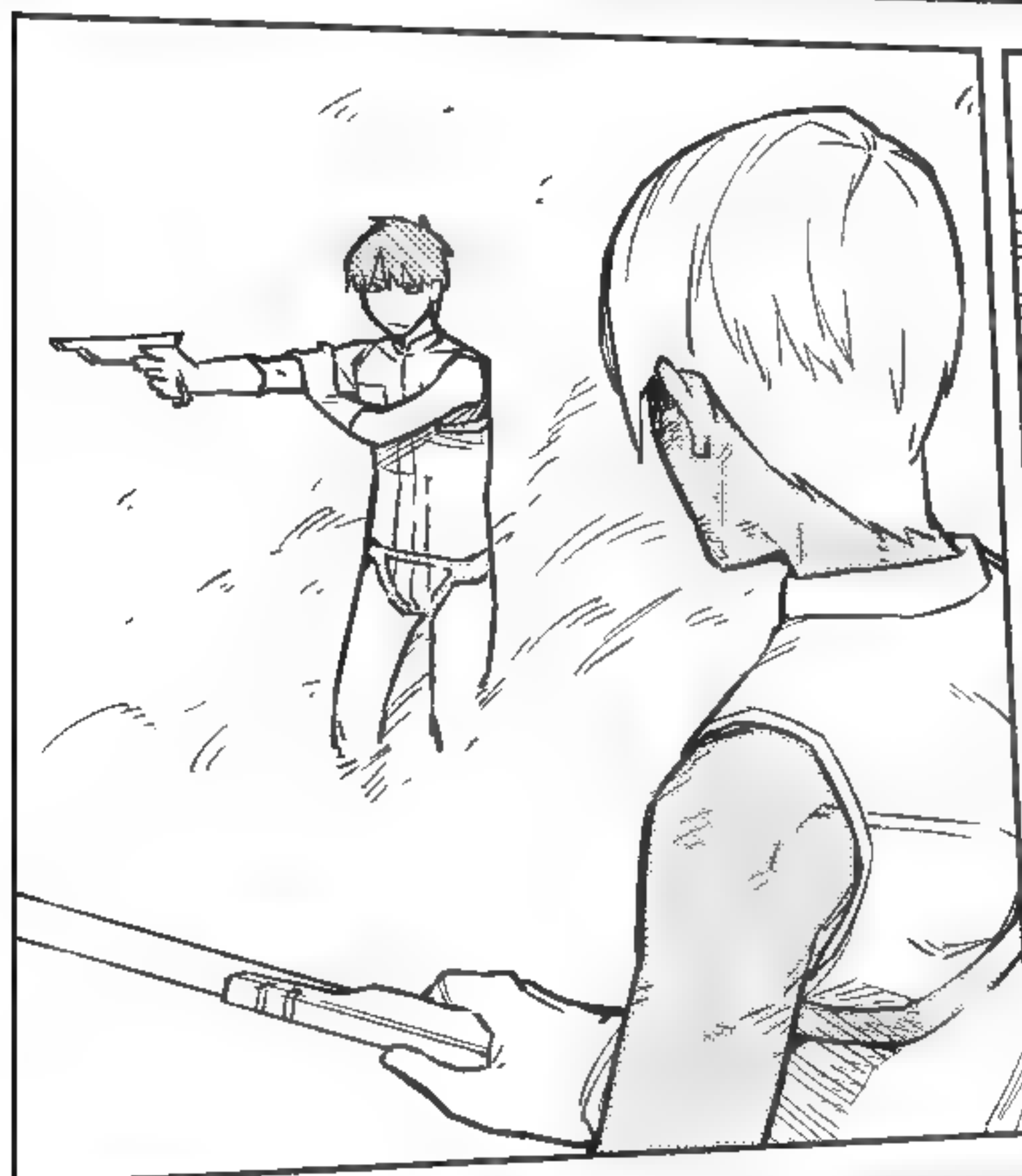
F
W
O

0

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0







WHAT'S THIS?!

SEEMS LIKE ALL THE DAMAGE YOU'VE TAKEN IS ON THE LEFT SIDE OF YOUR BODY!

HOW'D YOU LIKE MY INVISIBLE SHOT?!

COULD IT BE THAT YOU HAVE TROUBLE SEEING ON THAT SIDE?



SMIRK
ハハハ



...

HIS LEFT!
HIS BLIND SPOT IS HIS LEFT SIDE!

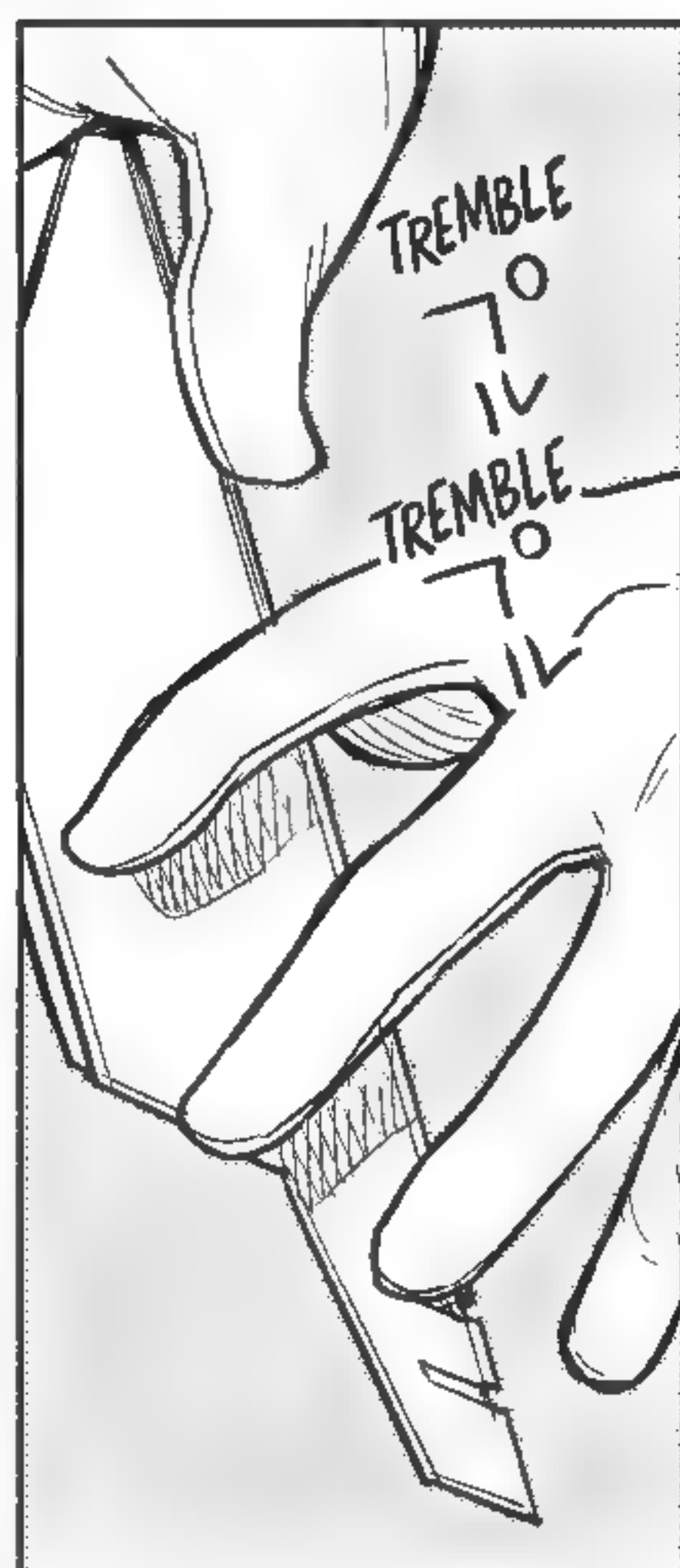
NOW,
SHION-KUN!



I'LL TAKE 'EM OUT ONE AT A TIME.

FINE...

STARTING WITH...



TREMBLE
70 IL
TREMBLE
70 IL



YOU THINK YOU CAN GET ALL EXCITED, YOU COLOR-LESS PIECE OF TRASH...?

PLING
+
-!



THE
WEAKER OF
THE TWO!



WHY'RE
YOU
GOING
AFTER
ME...?



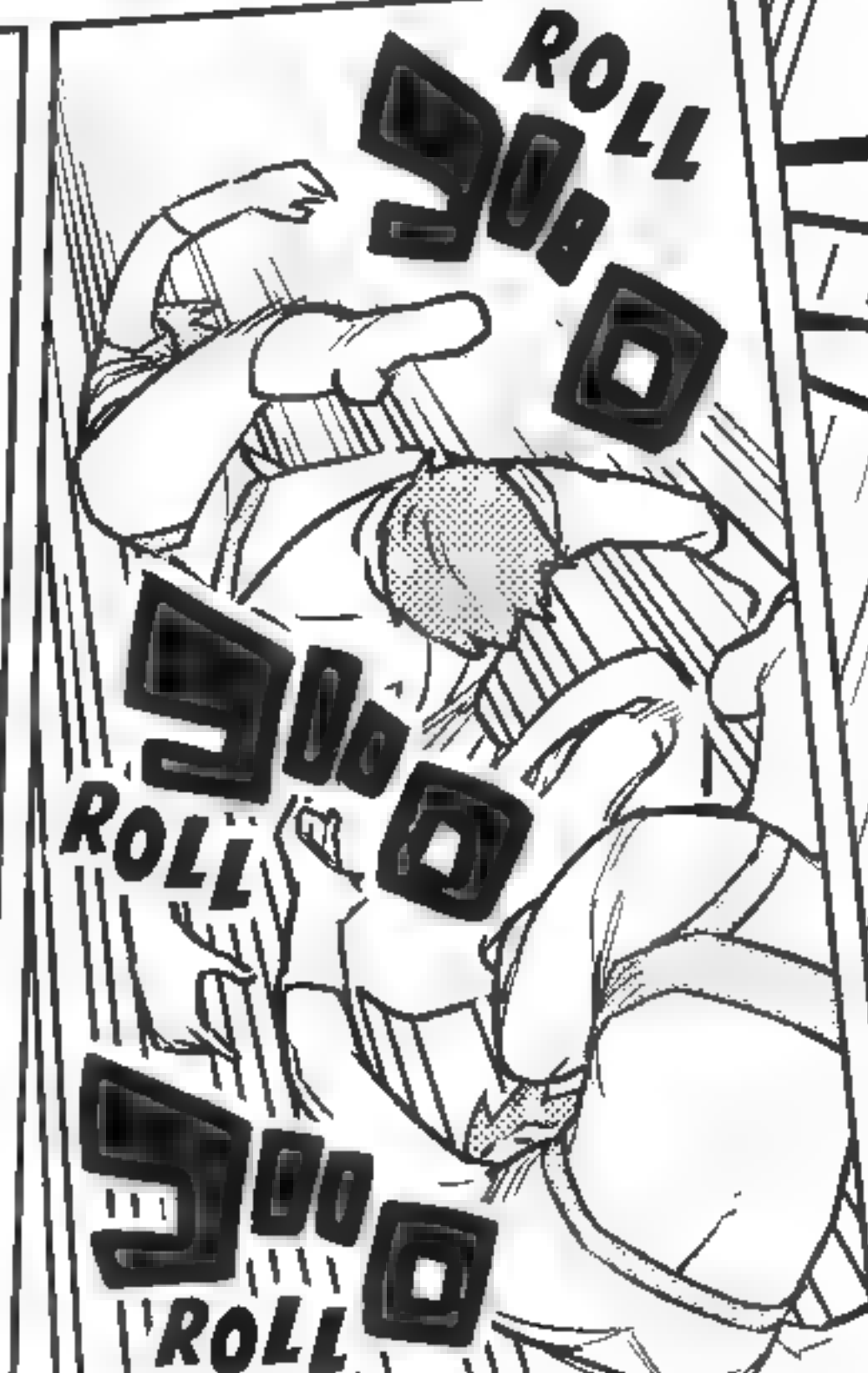
YOU
ALWAYS GO
AFTER THE
WEAK ONE
FIRST!



SHION!

I GOT
CARRIED
AWAY AND
PUSHED
TOO FAR
AHEAD!

WHERE
ARE YOU?
HELP ME
OUT
HERE!



NO, WAIT.
HE'D HAPPILY
JUST WATCH
ME GET
KILLED.

THAT'S
THE KIND
OF GUY
HE IS.

CRAP!





TOO BAD
IT'S TOO
LATE!

NOW YOU
FINALLY GET
SCARED?

WHAAA?



LET'S PULL
BACK FOR
TODAY!

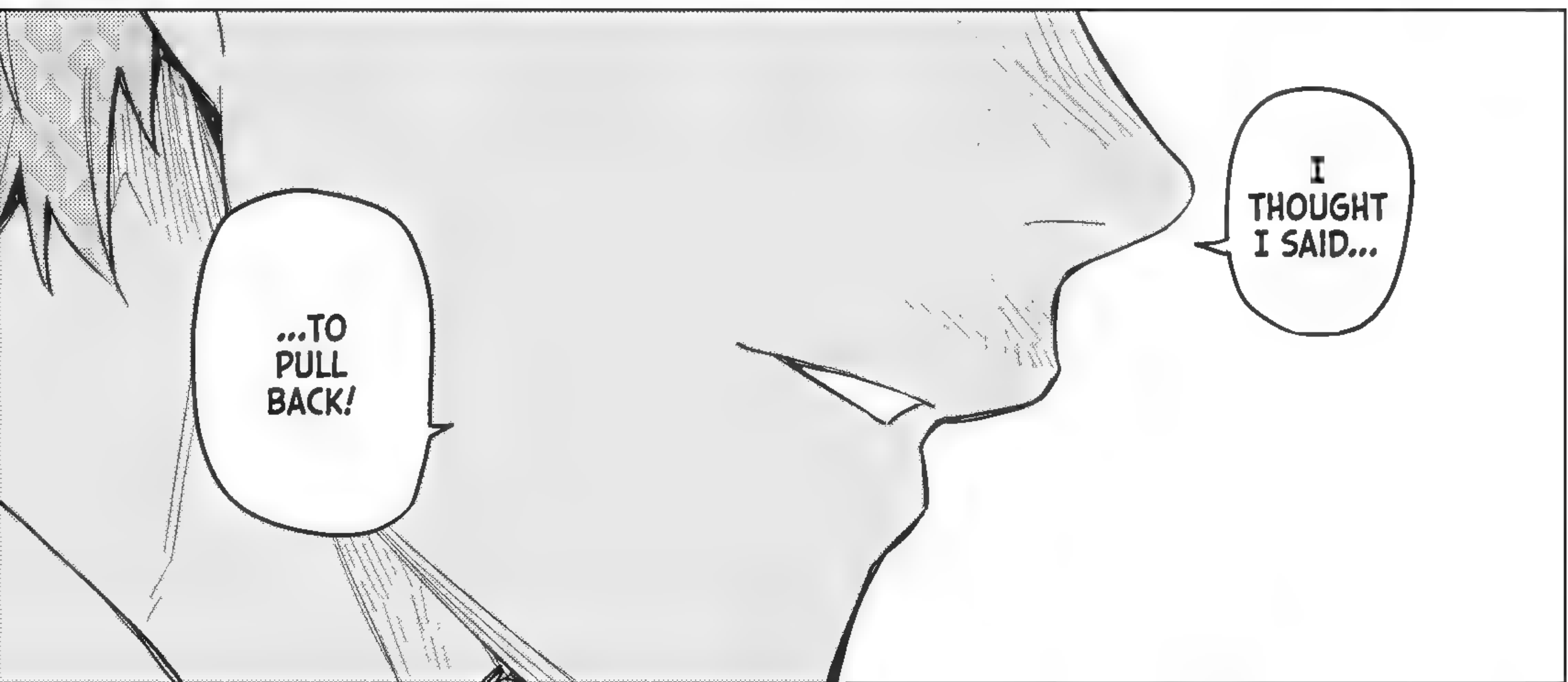
WE'RE NO
MATCH FOR
HIM AFTER
ALL, EVEN
TOGETHER!

SHION-KUN!
CAN YOU
HEAR ME?



THIS
IS WHERE
YOUR TEST
ENDS!

YOU'RE
NOT
GETTING
AWAY!



...TO
PULL
BACK!

I
THOUGHT
I SAID...

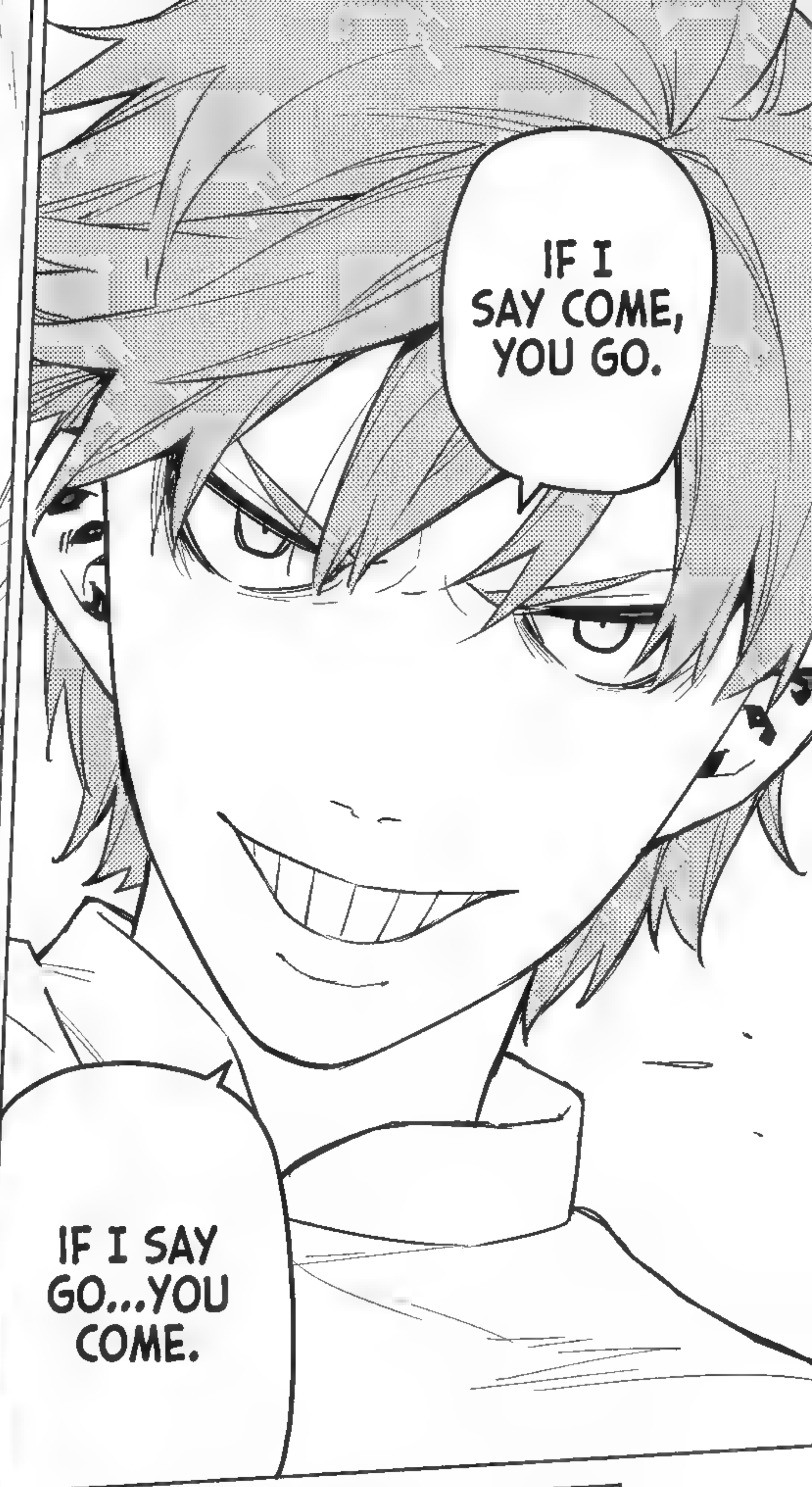
BUT ONE
OF THE
FEW HABITS
I KNOW
SURFACE-
DWELLERS
HAVE...

I MIGHT
NOT KNOW
MUCH...

THAT'S
HOW
YOU'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN.



FW
WO
OH





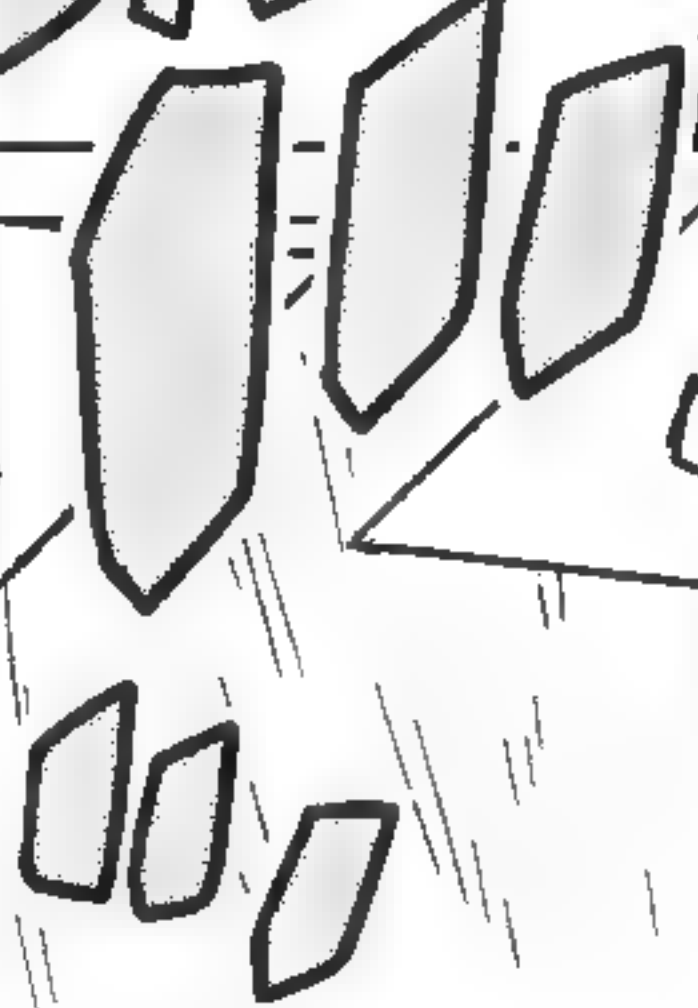


HEY.

**WANT
ME TO GO
EASY ON
YOU?**

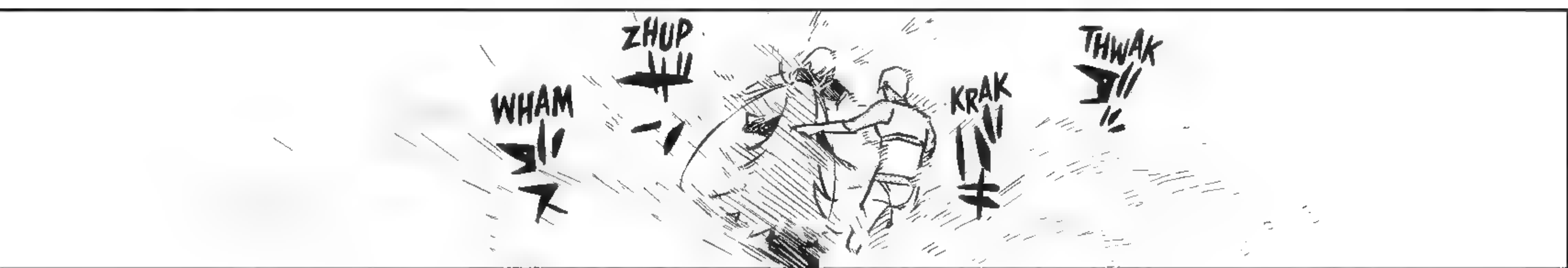
**YOU'RE
A DEAD
MAN.**

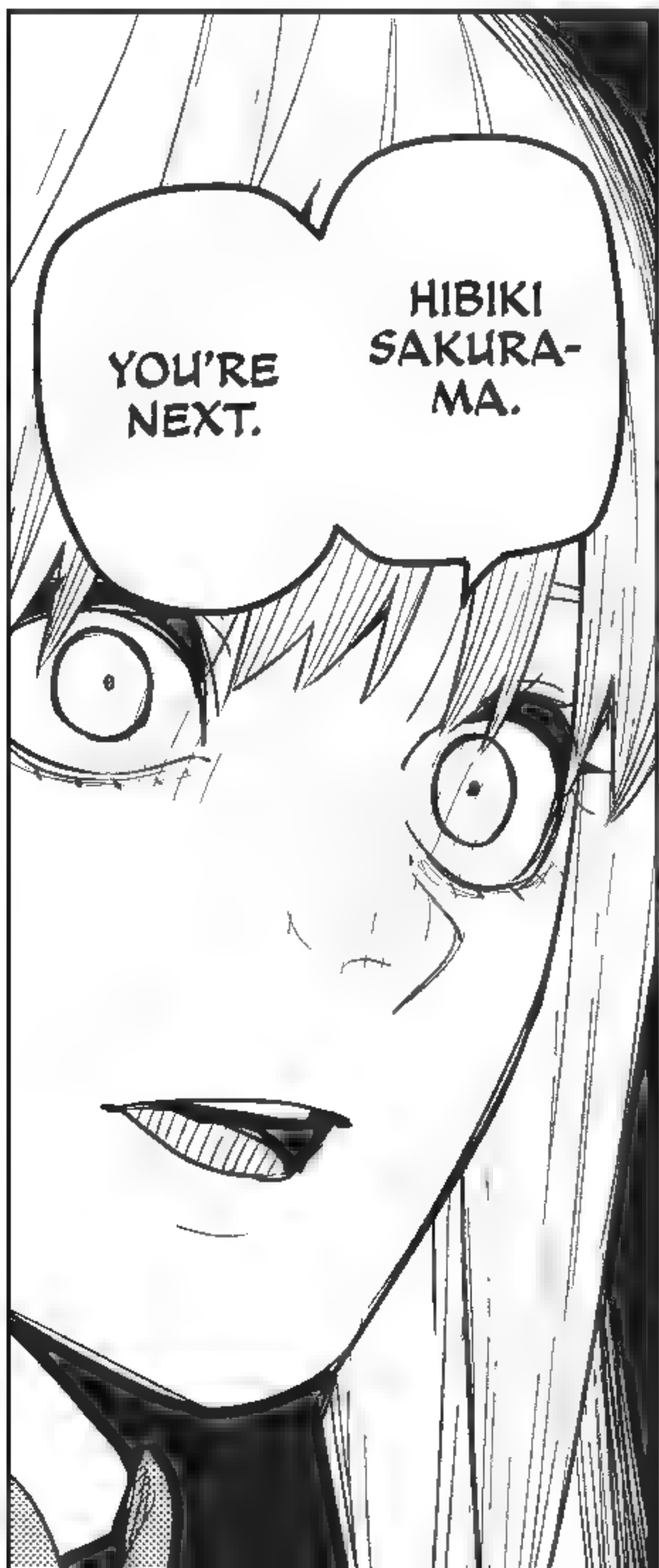
BAM

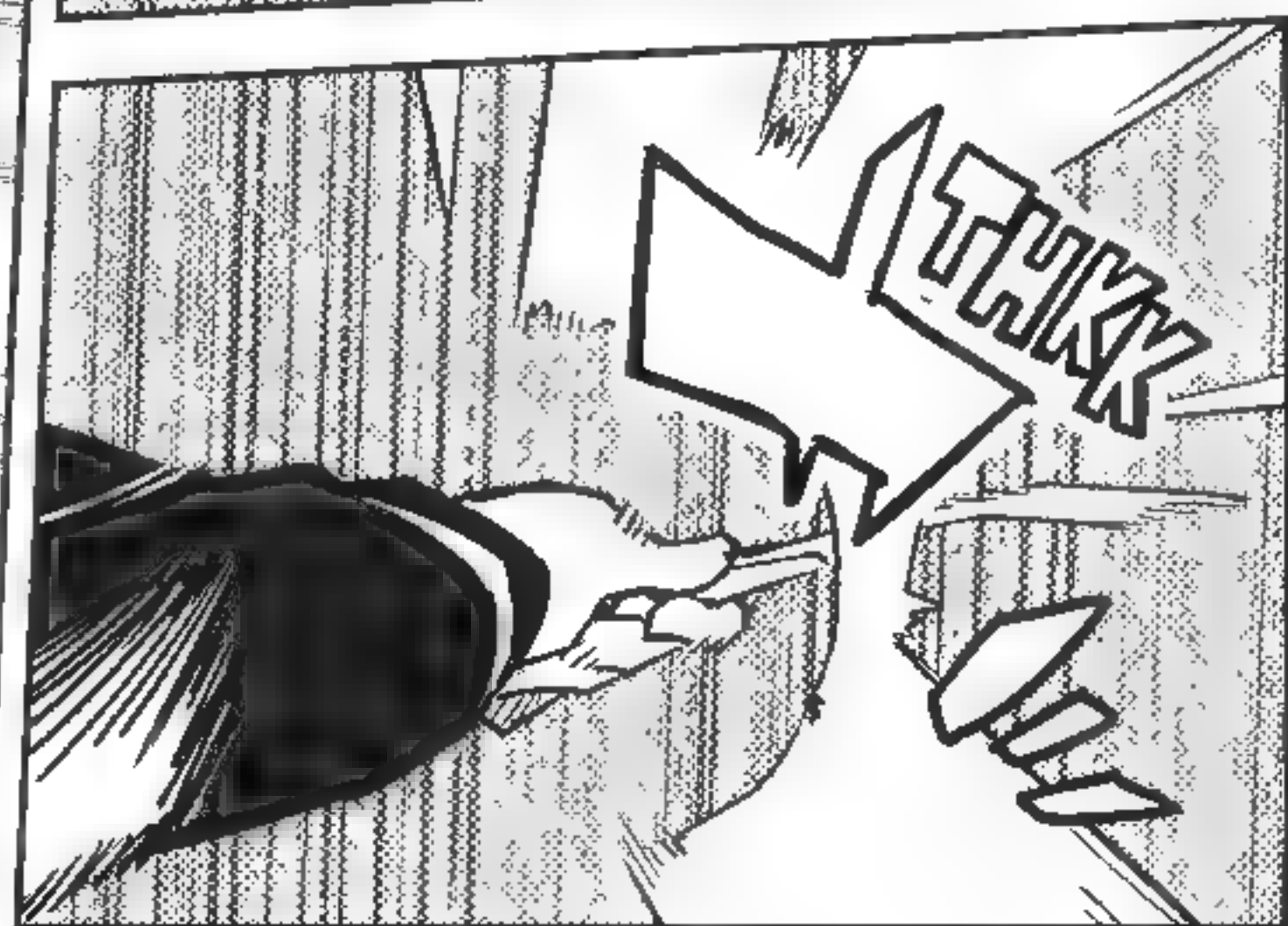


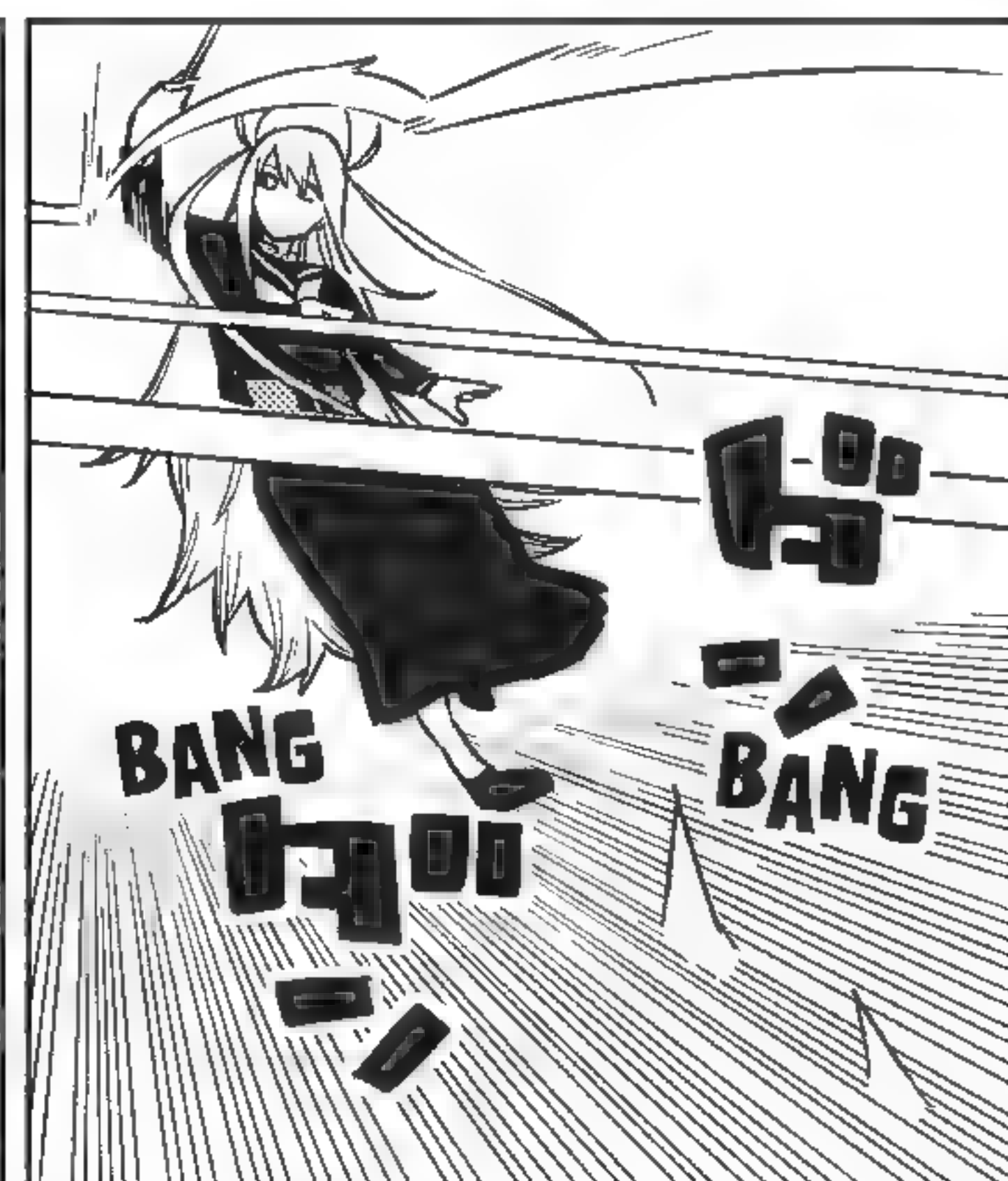
**I COULD
CRY.**













...USUKUBO-SAN?



I'M SURE THAT EVERYONE HAS THEIR REASONS FOR BECOMING A FULL-FLEDGED RANGER.

THAT GOES FOR ME, TOO.

AND IT'S HAPPENING RIGHT HERE.



YOU'RE FINALLY STARTING TO LOOK A LITTLE MORE SERIOUS.

HUH.

YOU STILL HAD SOMETHING LEFT IN YOU.

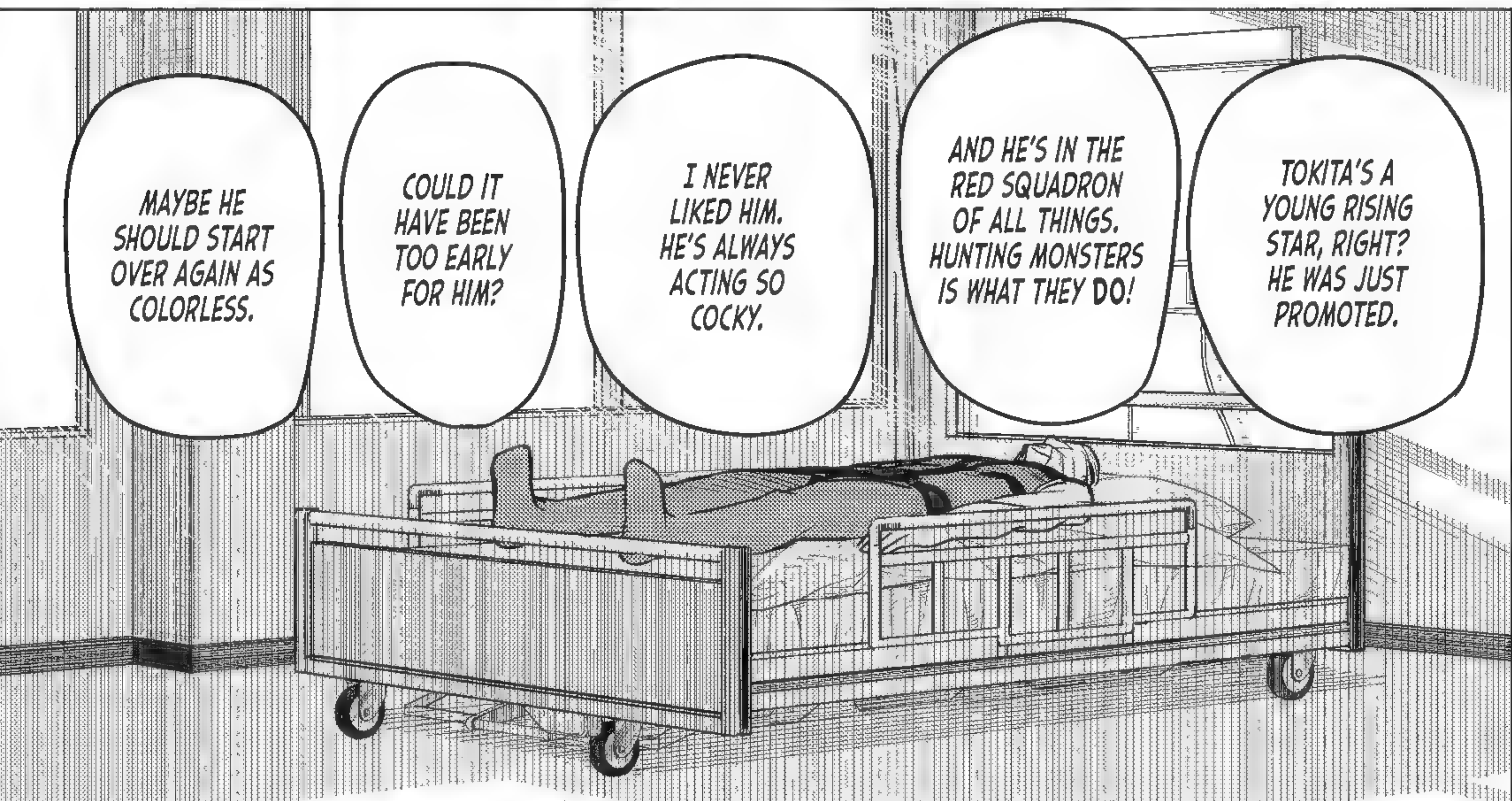




YOU,
OF ALL
PEOPLE...?!

HIBIKI!

DAMMIT!



MAYBE HE
SHOULD START
OVER AGAIN AS
COLORLESS.

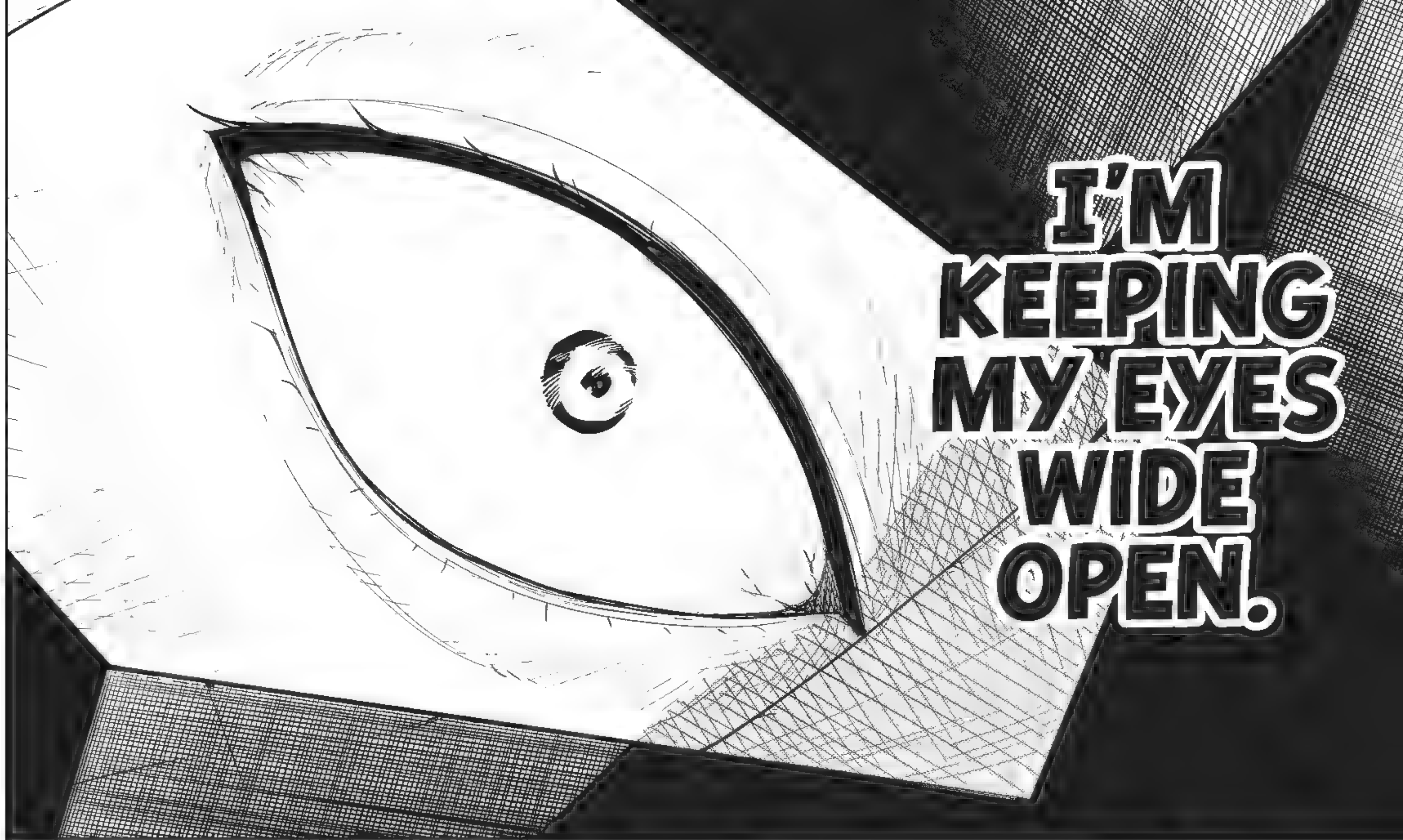
COULD IT
HAVE BEEN
TOO EARLY
FOR HIM?

I NEVER
LIKED HIM.
HE'S ALWAYS
ACTING SO
COCKY.

AND HE'S IN THE
RED SQUADRON
OF ALL THINGS.
HUNTING MONSTERS
IS WHAT THEY DO!

TOKITA'S A
YOUNG RISING
STAR, RIGHT?
HE WAS JUST
PROMOTED.





**I'M
KEEPING
MY EYES
WIDE
OPEN.**



?!



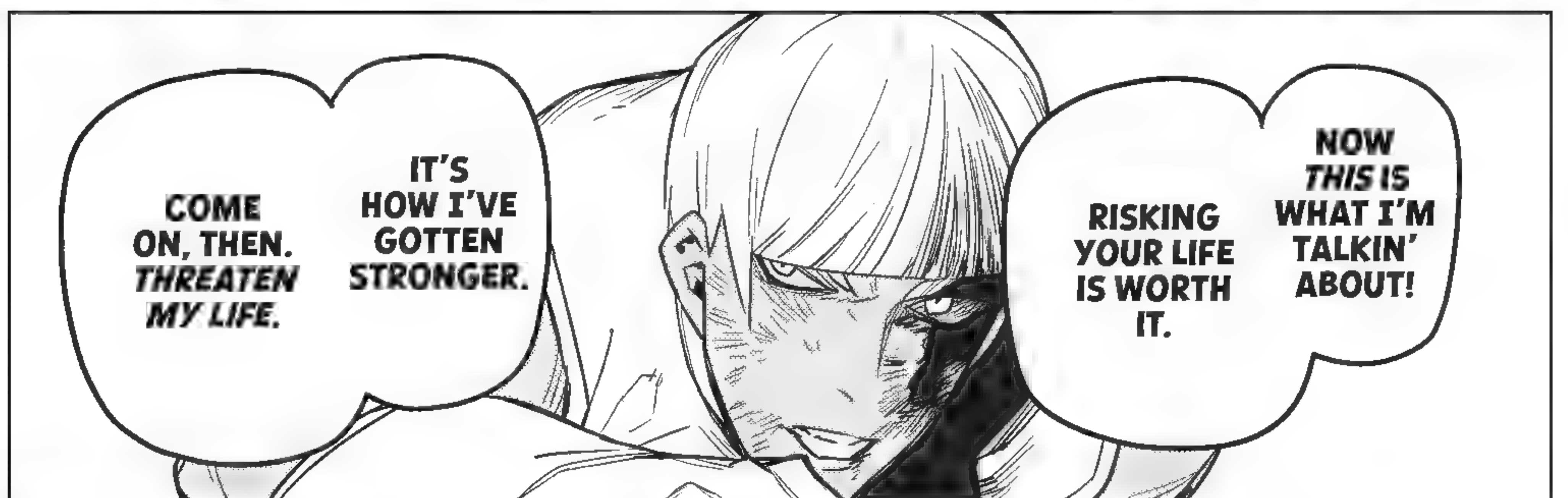
KLANG



GWOOSH



**HEADSHOTS
DON'T
COUNT.**

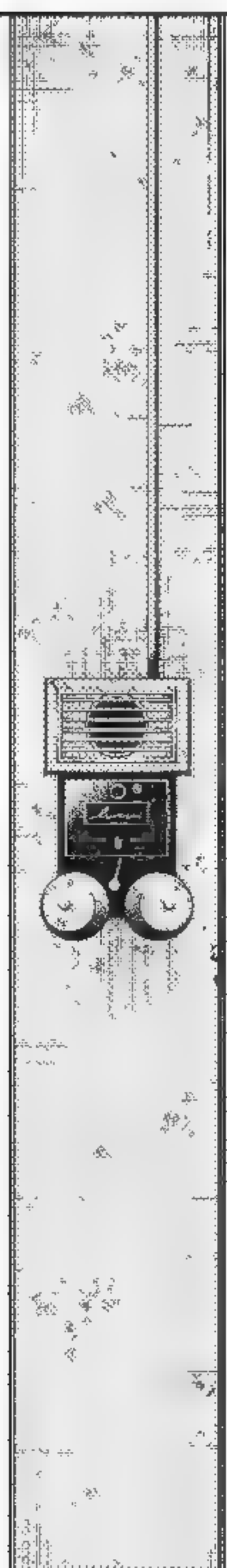


**COME
ON, THEN.
THREATEN
MY LIFE.**

**IT'S
HOW I'VE
GOTTEN
STRONGER.**

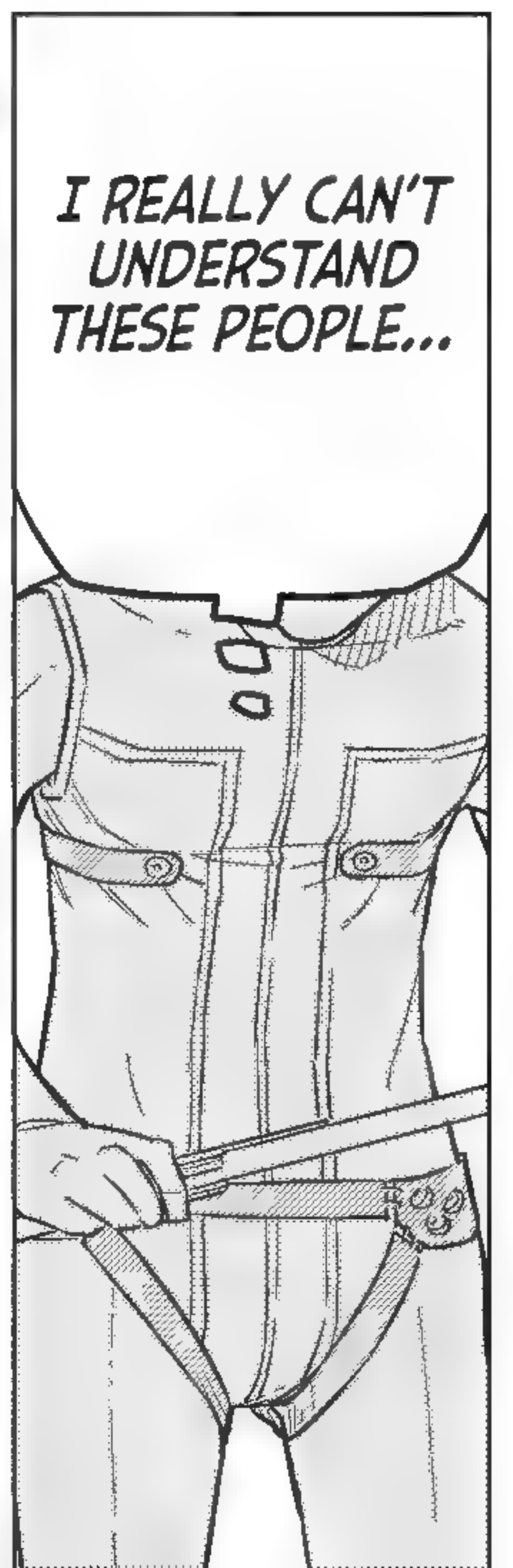
**RISKING
YOUR LIFE
IS WORTH
IT.**

**NOW
THIS IS
WHAT I'M
TALKIN'
ABOUT!**



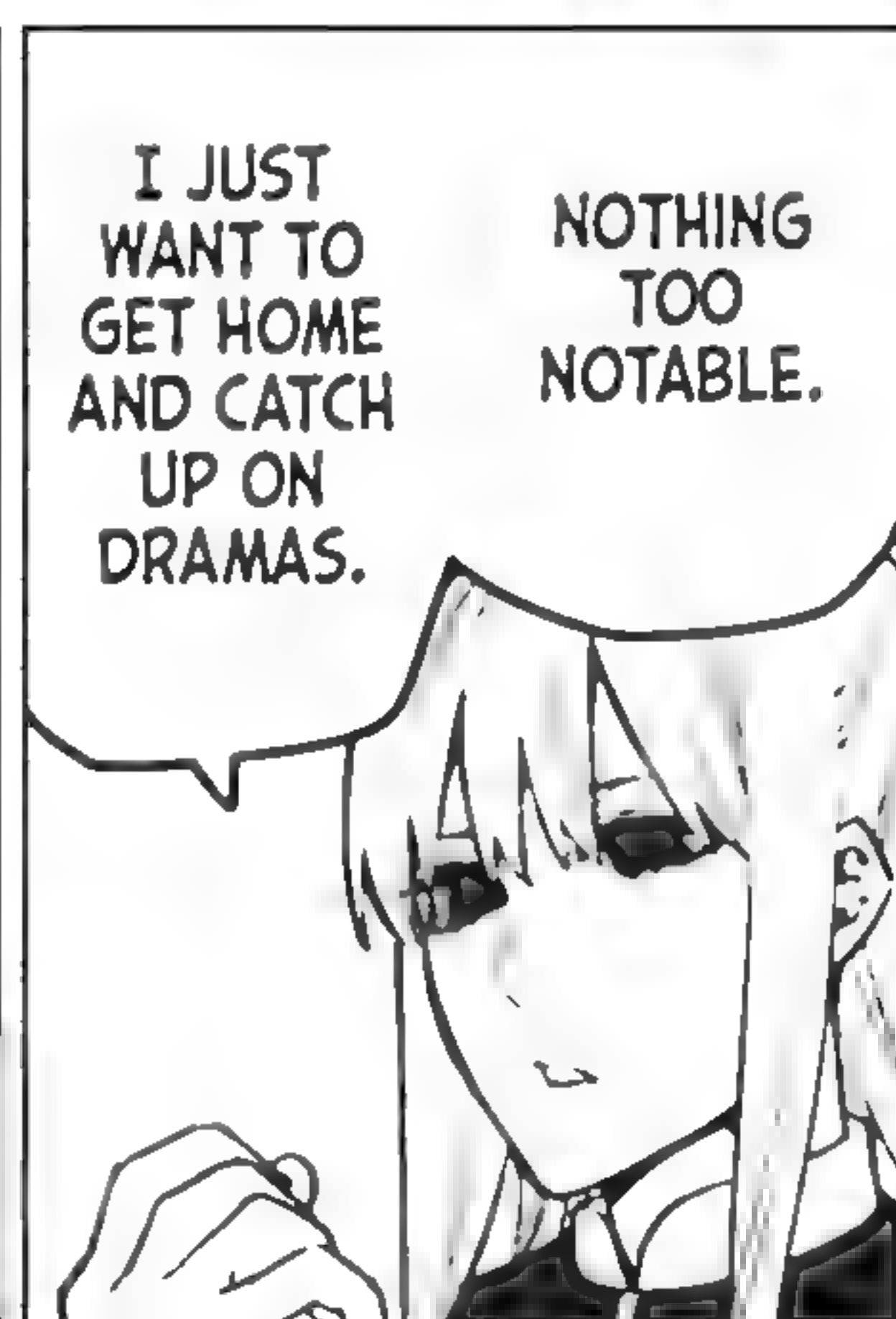
**HERE I
COME!**

**IF
YOU SAY
SO!**



**I REALLY CAN'T
UNDERSTAND
THESE PEOPLE...**

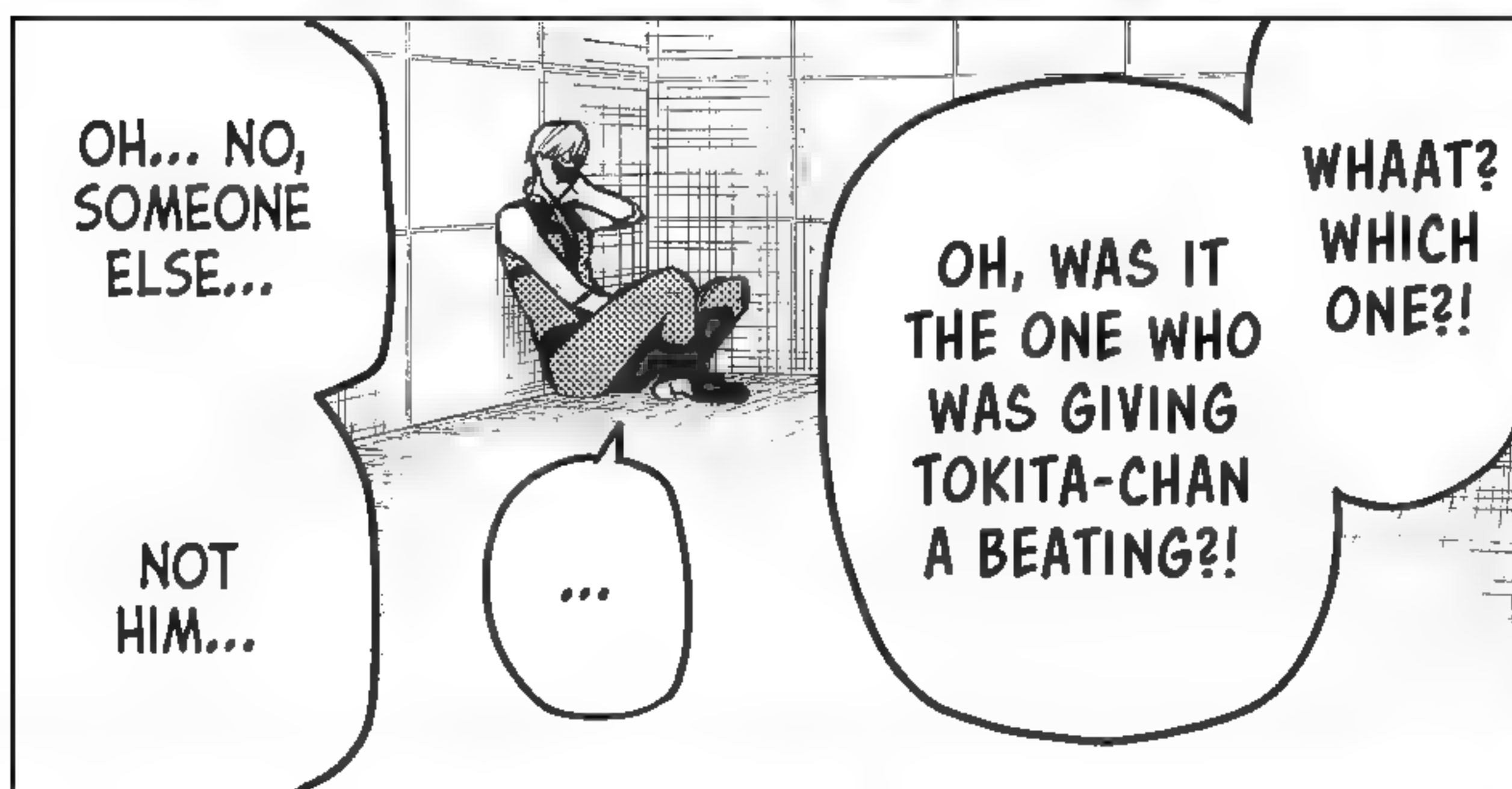
Chapter 22: THE WHITE DRAGON'S TEST





JUST
A LITTLE,
THOUGH.

ONE OF
THEM WAS
INTERESTING.



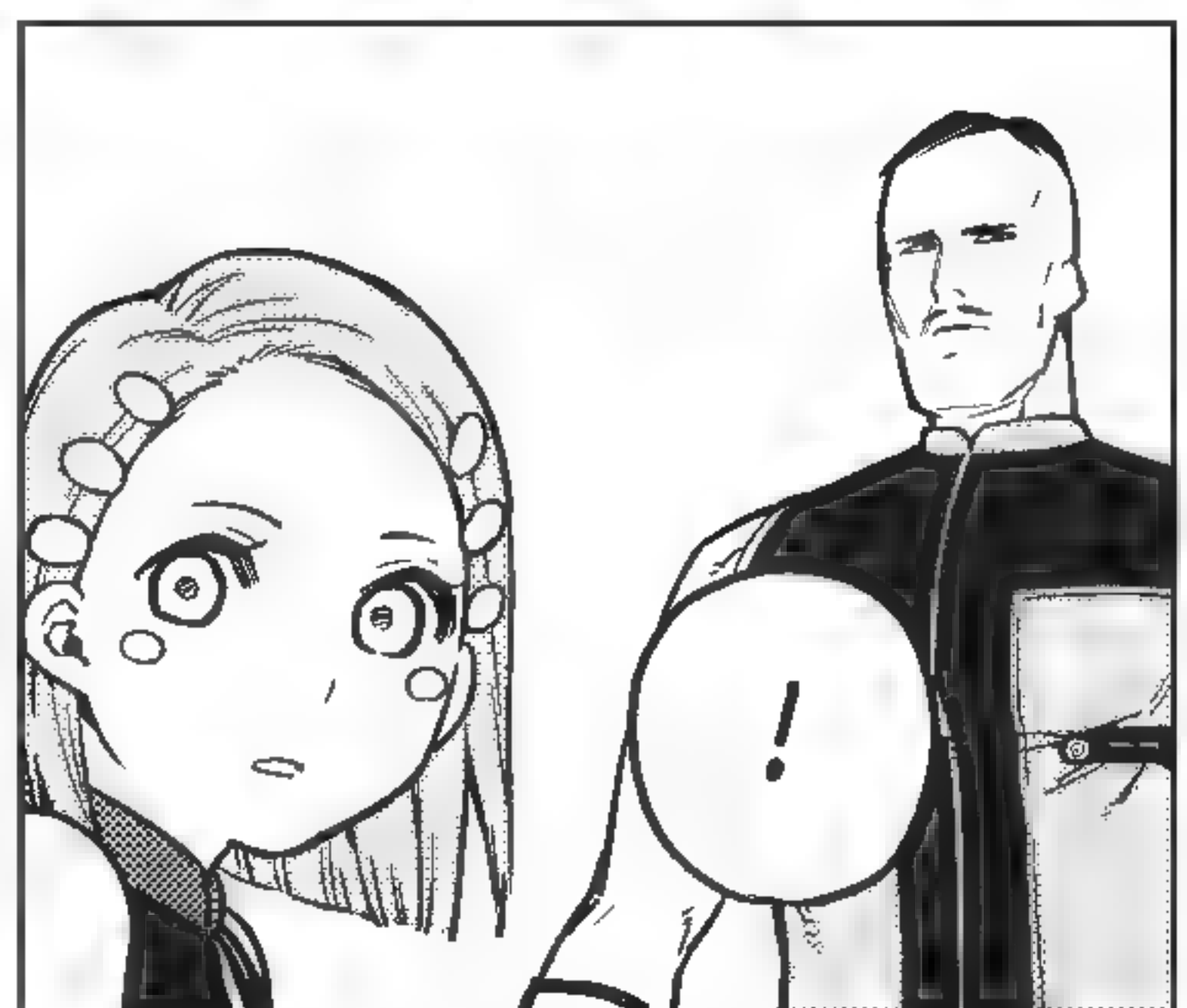
OH... NO,
SOMEONE
ELSE...

NOT
HIM...

...

OH, WAS IT
THE ONE WHO
WAS GIVING
TOKITA-CHAN
A BEATING?!

WHAAT?
WHICH
ONE?!



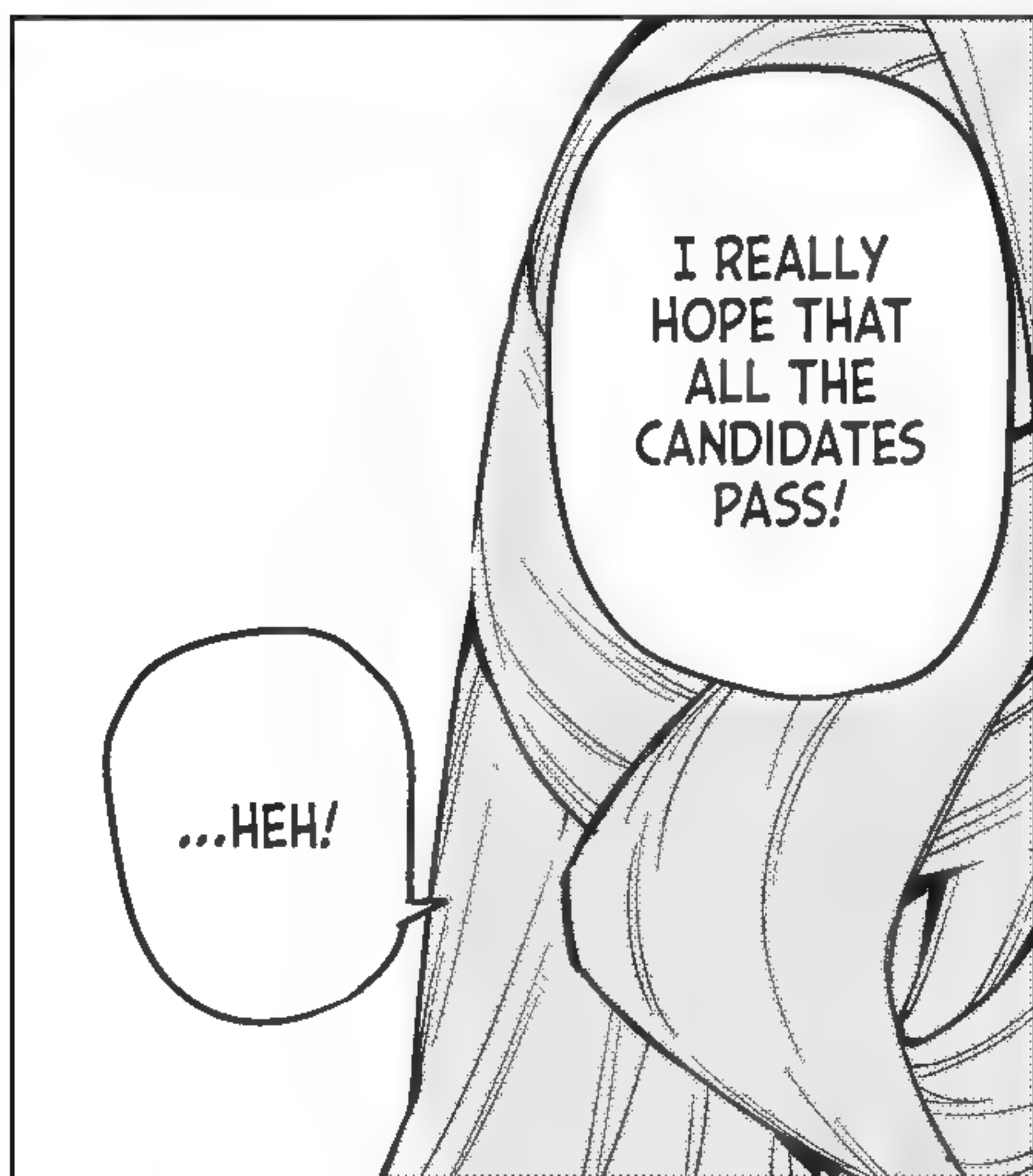
!



NOT THAT
HE'LL HAVE
ANY EFFECT
ON THE END
RESULT.

BUT WATCHING
THE WAY HE WAS
DESPERATELY
THRASHING AROUND
WAS A NICE WAY TO
PASS THE TIME.

I DON'T KNOW
HOW MUCH OF IT
HE PLANNED, AND
I REALLY DON'T
CARE.



I REALLY
HOPE THAT
ALL THE
CANDIDATES
PASS!

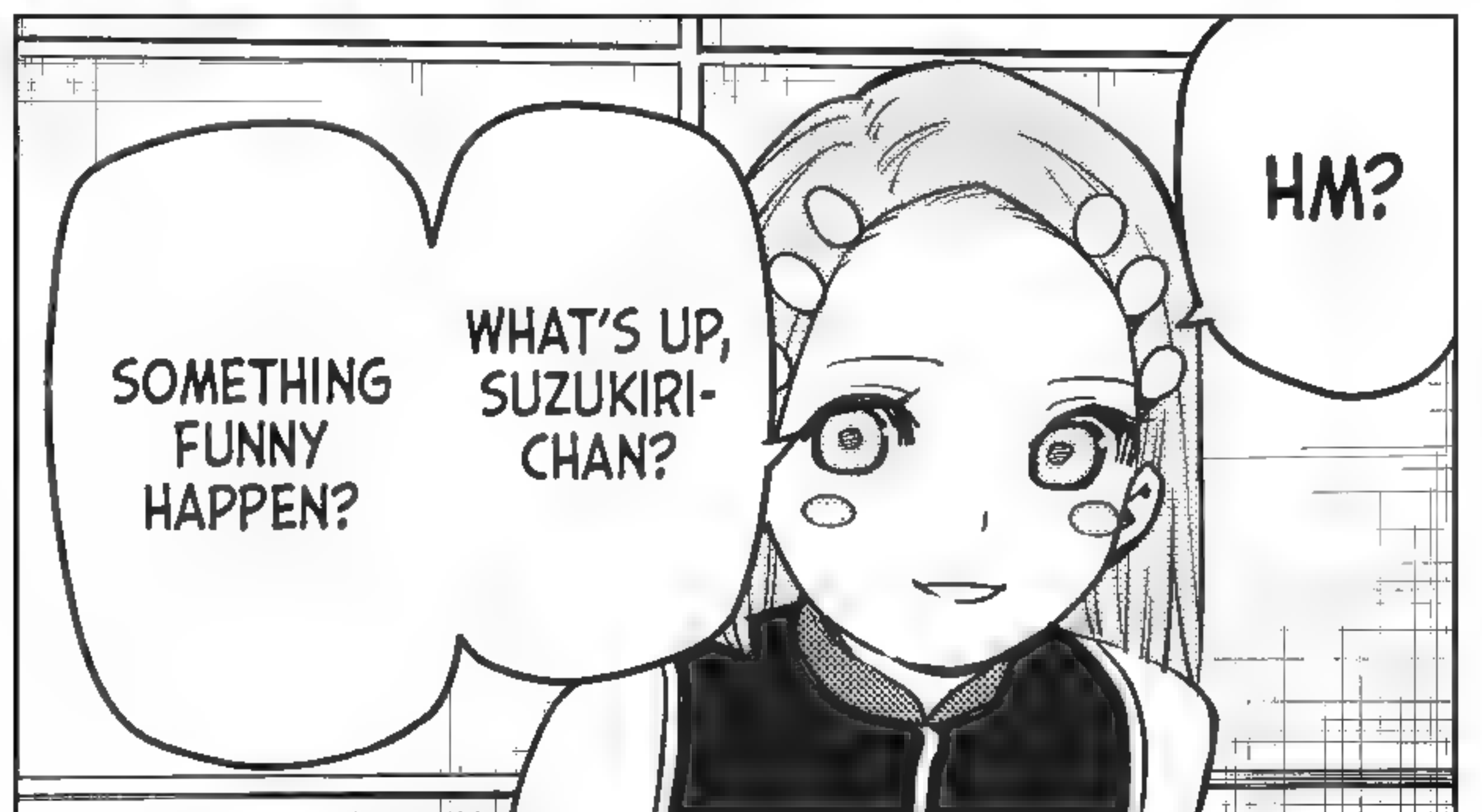
...HEH!

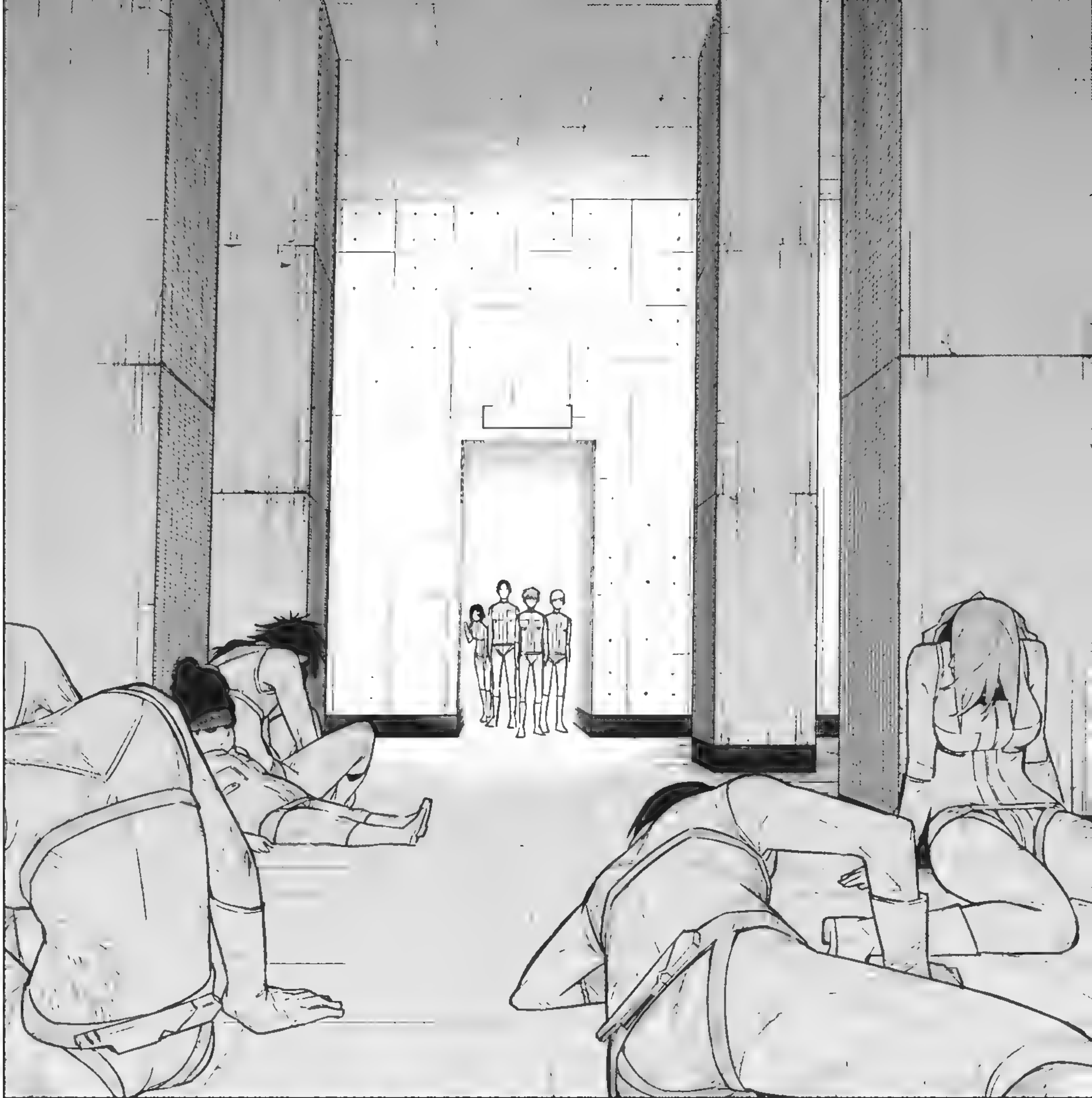


BLUE
SQUAD'S
KIDS WORKED
HARD, TOO.

YEP.

IT'S GOOD
NEWS FOR THE
RANGER FORCE
THAT WE HAVE
CAPABLE NEW
BLOOD.







I JOINED
TO FIGHT
MONSTERS.

I NEVER
HEARD
ANYTHING
ABOUT
FIGHTING
PEOPLE LIKE
THEM.

I'M
QUIT-
TING.

WHAT'S
THE POINT
IN THIS?



THIS IS A
PROBLEM
...

SEEMS LIKE
WE WEREN'T
THE ONLY ONES
WHO WERE
COMPLETELY
OVERPOWERED.



...SAVE
YOURSELF THE
TROUBLE AND
JUST QUIT
ALREADY.

AND IF
ALL YOU'RE
GONNA DO
IS SPEND ALL
DAY RUNNING
AWAY JUST
LIKE YOU DID
TODAY...

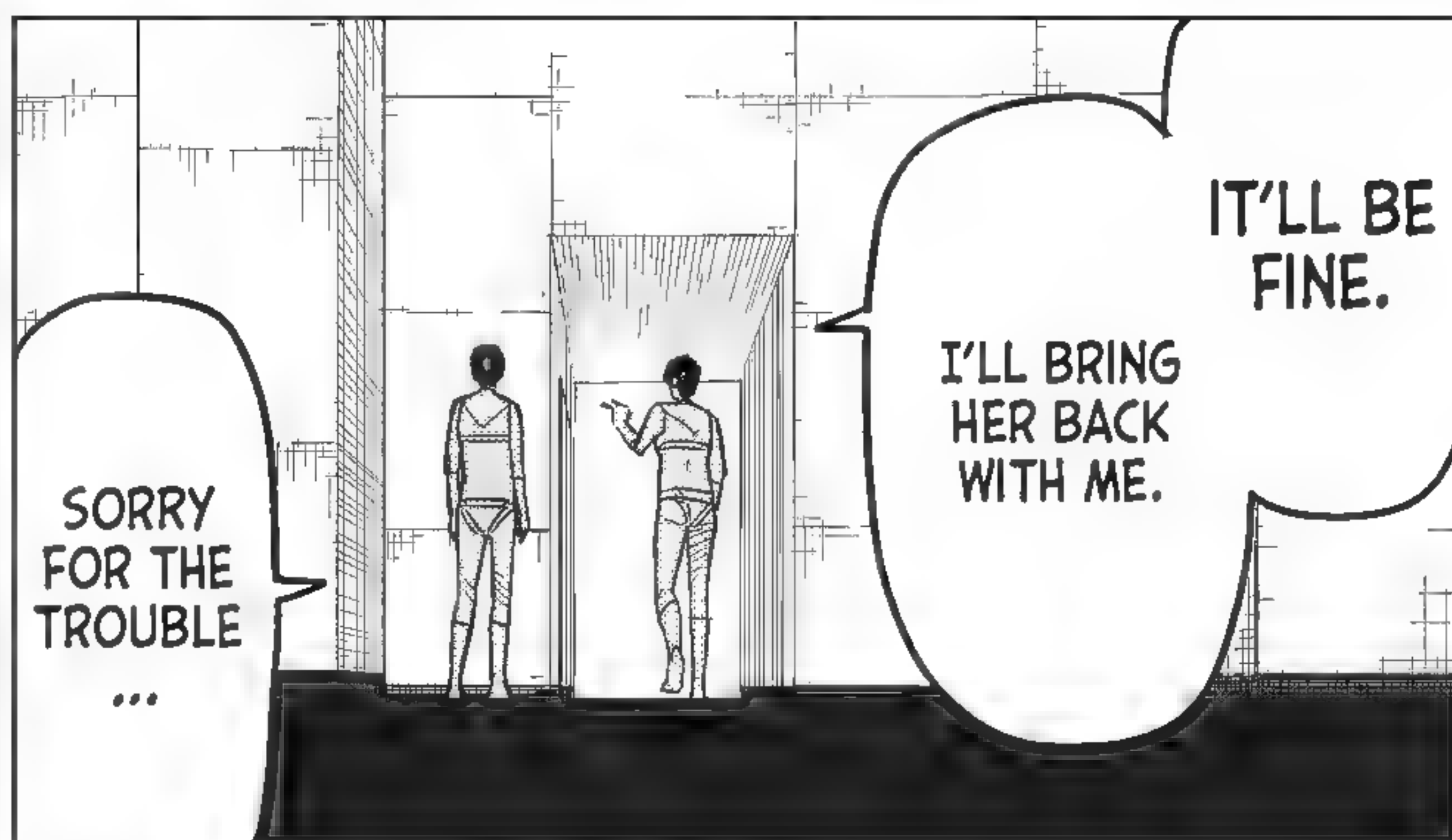


OH.

SORRY...

AND IT'S
ONLY DAY
ONE...

SEEMS
LIKE ALL THE
ADRENALINE
LEFT MY
BODY.



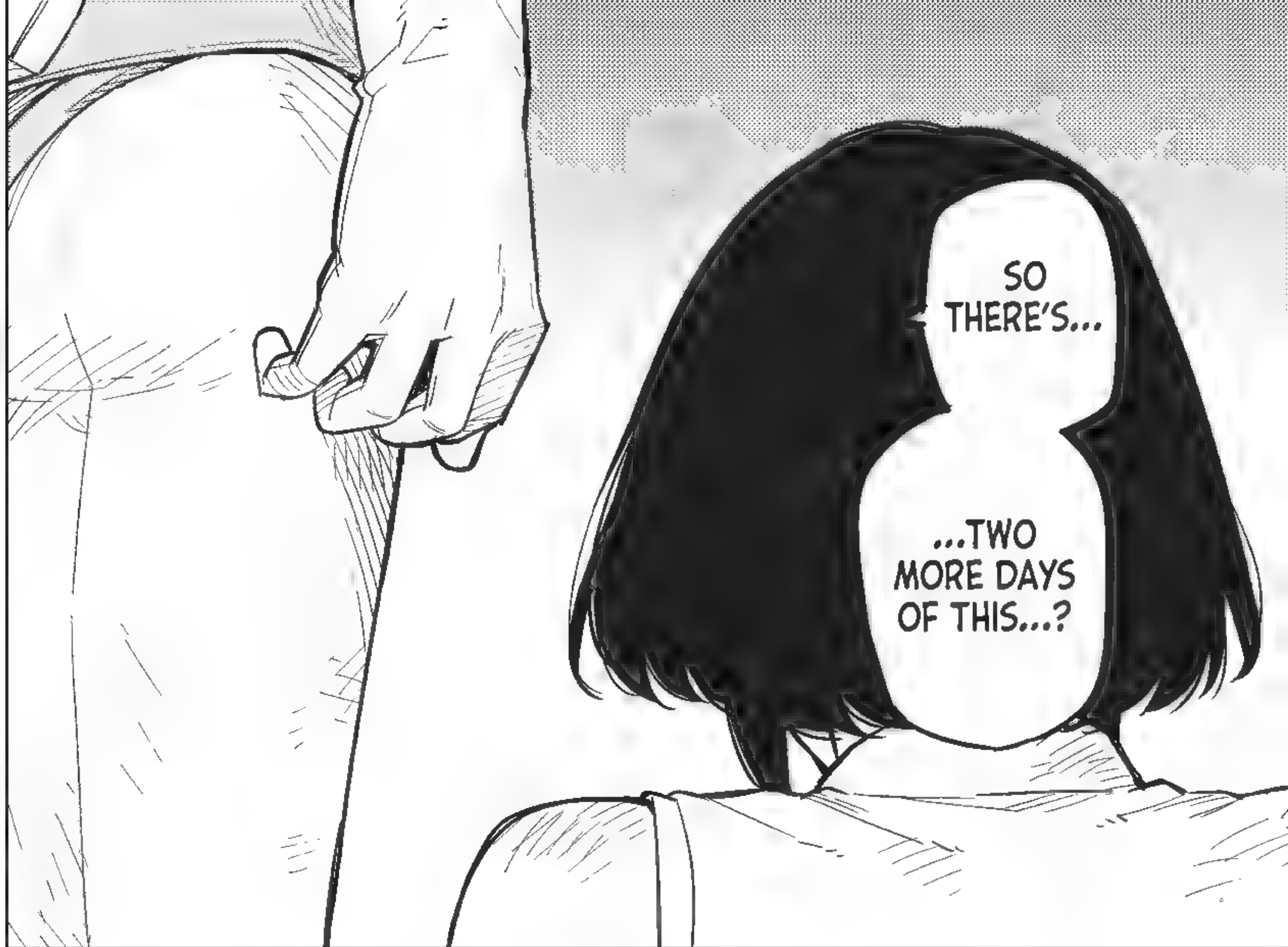
SORRY
FOR THE
TROUBLE
...

I'LL BRING
HER BACK
WITH ME.

IT'LL BE
FINE.



POLOP



SO
THERE'S...

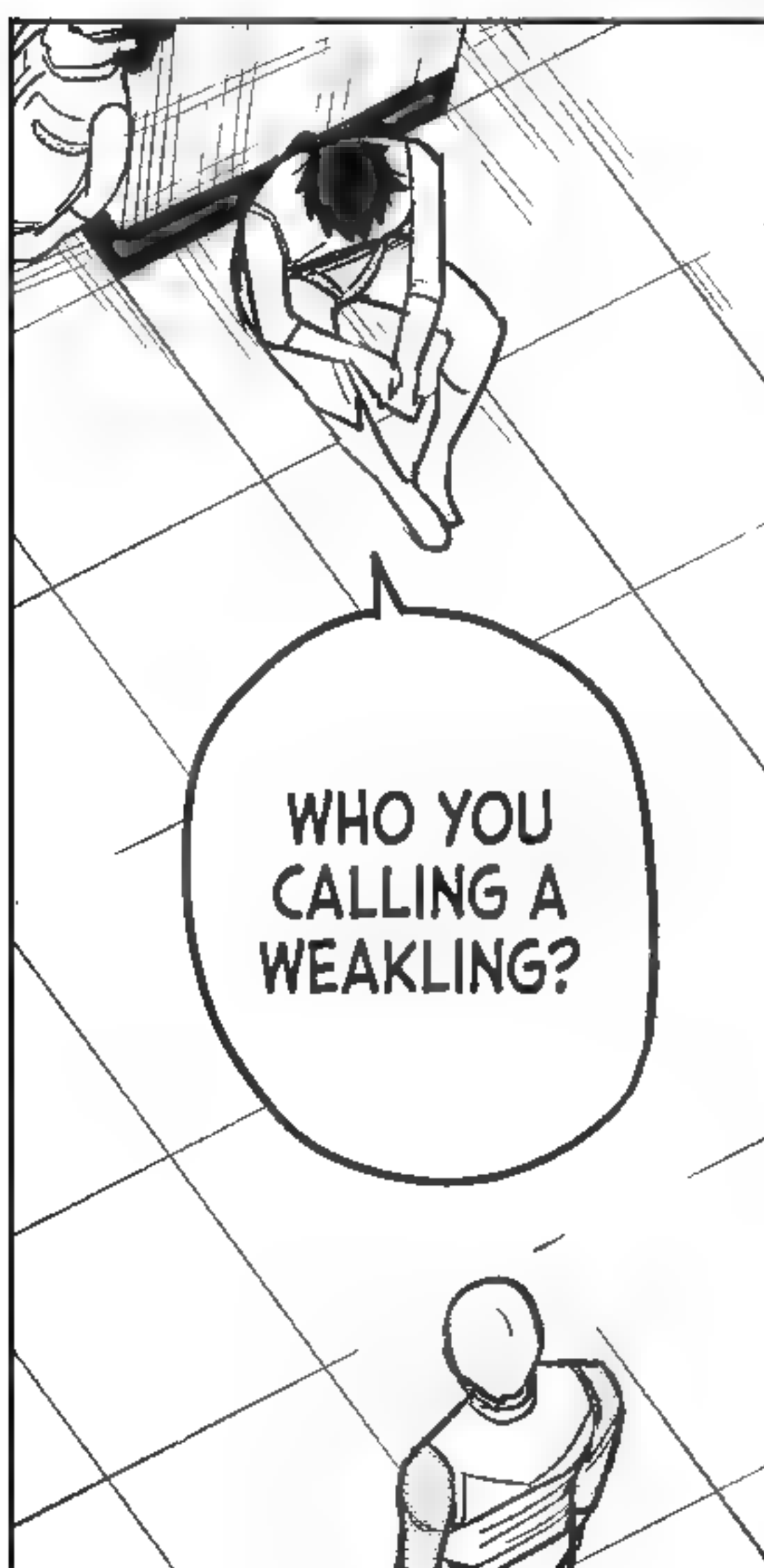
...TWO
MORE DAYS
OF THIS...?



I ADMIT,
I DO RESPECT
YOUR MENTAL
FORTITUDE.

YOU SHOULD
JUST RUN HOME
IF YOU'VE LOST
HEART.
WEAKLINGS.

GUSH
GUSH
GUSH



WHO YOU
CALLING A
WEAKLING?



STILL, THE
HOT-HEADED
WAY YOU FIGHT
REALLY SAVED
ME OUT THERE.

LET'S MAKE
EACH OTHER'S
DREAMS COME
TRUE!

I'LL BE
COUNTING
ON YOU
AGAIN GOING
FORWARD!



I HAVEN'T
GIVEN UP,
OKAY?

YEAH,
RANMARU.
I KNOW!

EIGEN-
KUN.



LET'S GO.
TIME TO
STRATEGIZE
FOR
TOMORROW.

YEAH.



DAMMIT...

DESPITE
HOW SHE
LOOKS, SHE'S
A MONSTER.

THAT
LITTLE GIRL
RANGER...



HE MUST BE
MORE OPEN
WITH EIGEN.

I HEARD
THOSE TWO
ARE OLD
FRIENDS.

IT'S BEEN A
WHILE SINCE
I LAST SAW
KOGUMA-KUN
TALK.



IS THAT
SO...

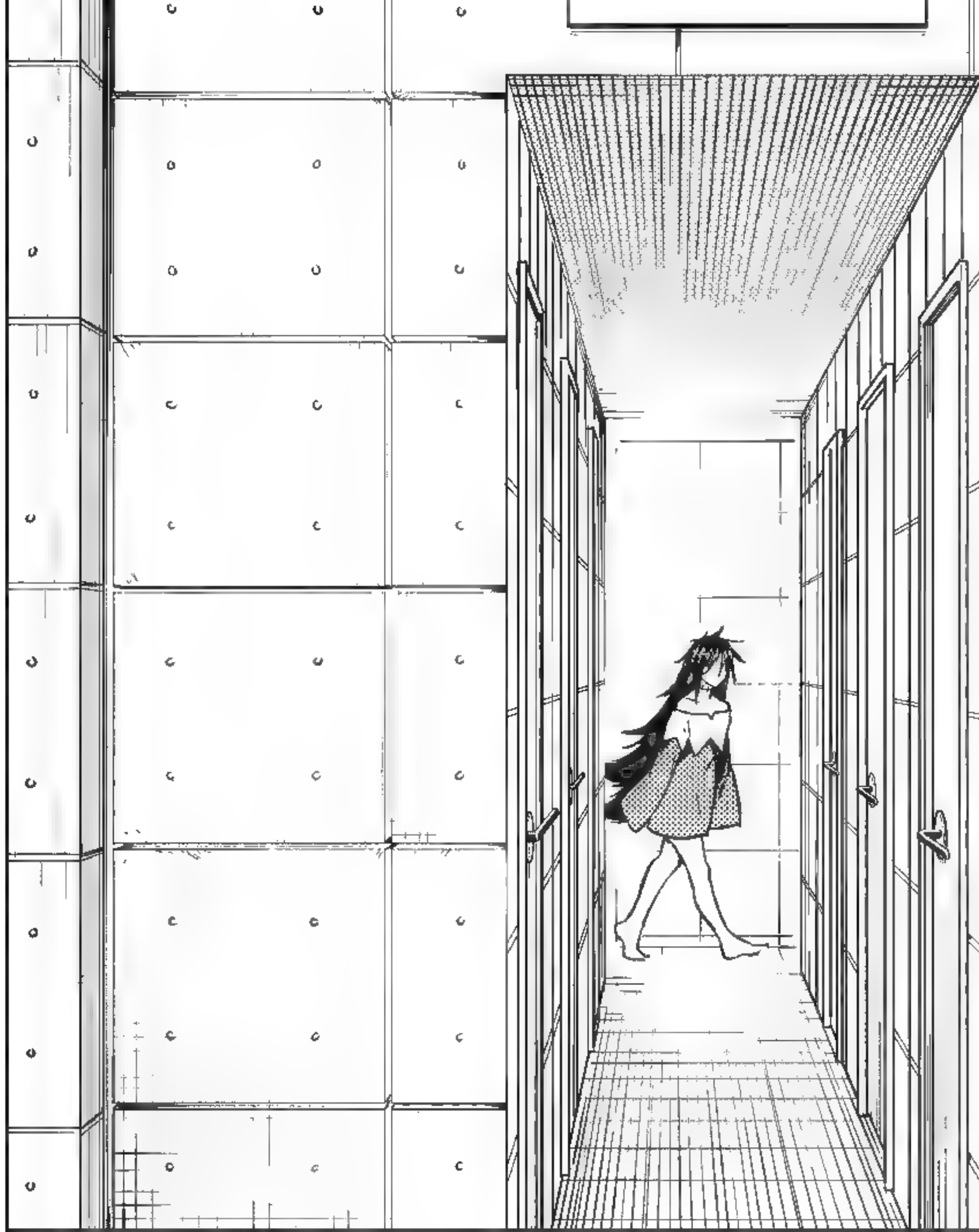


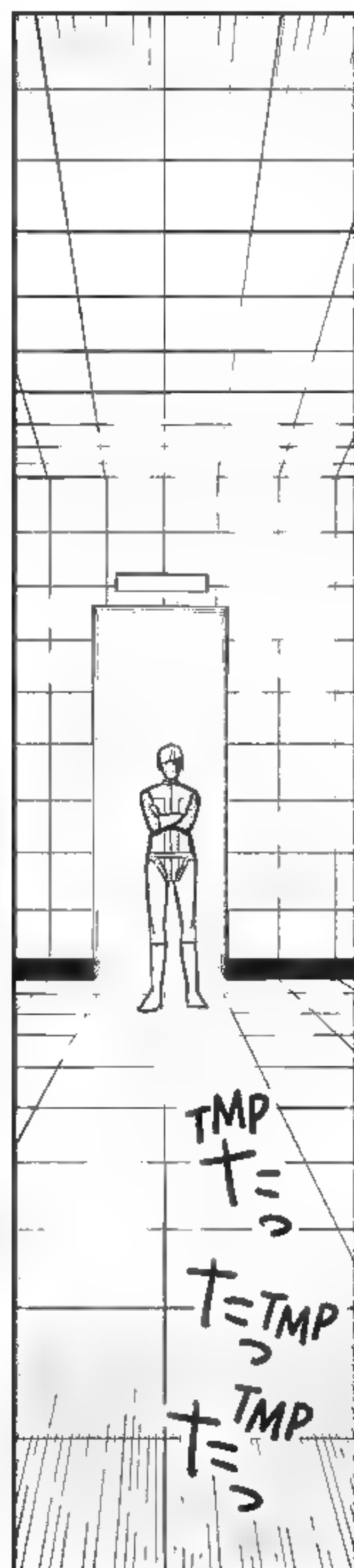
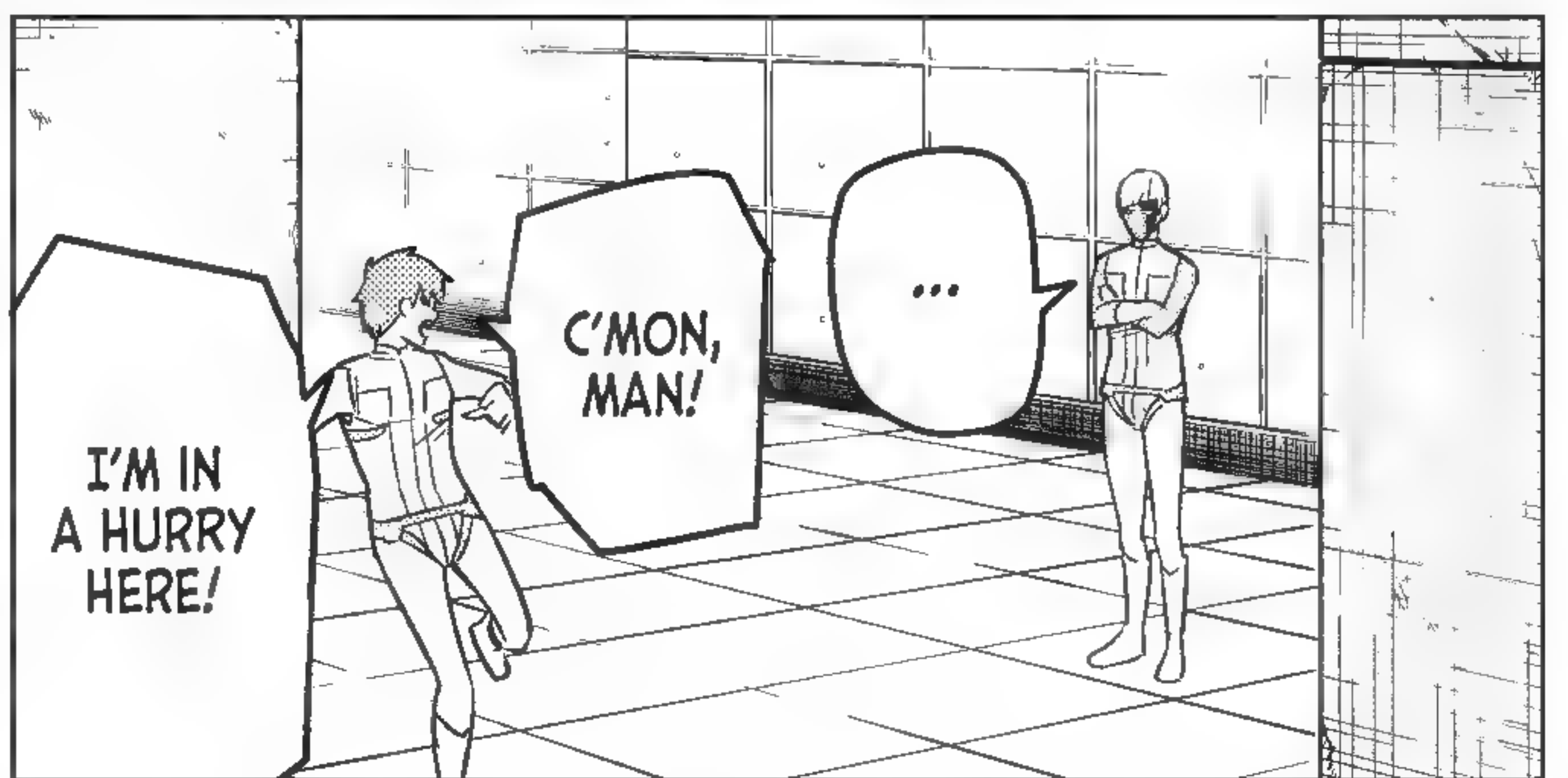
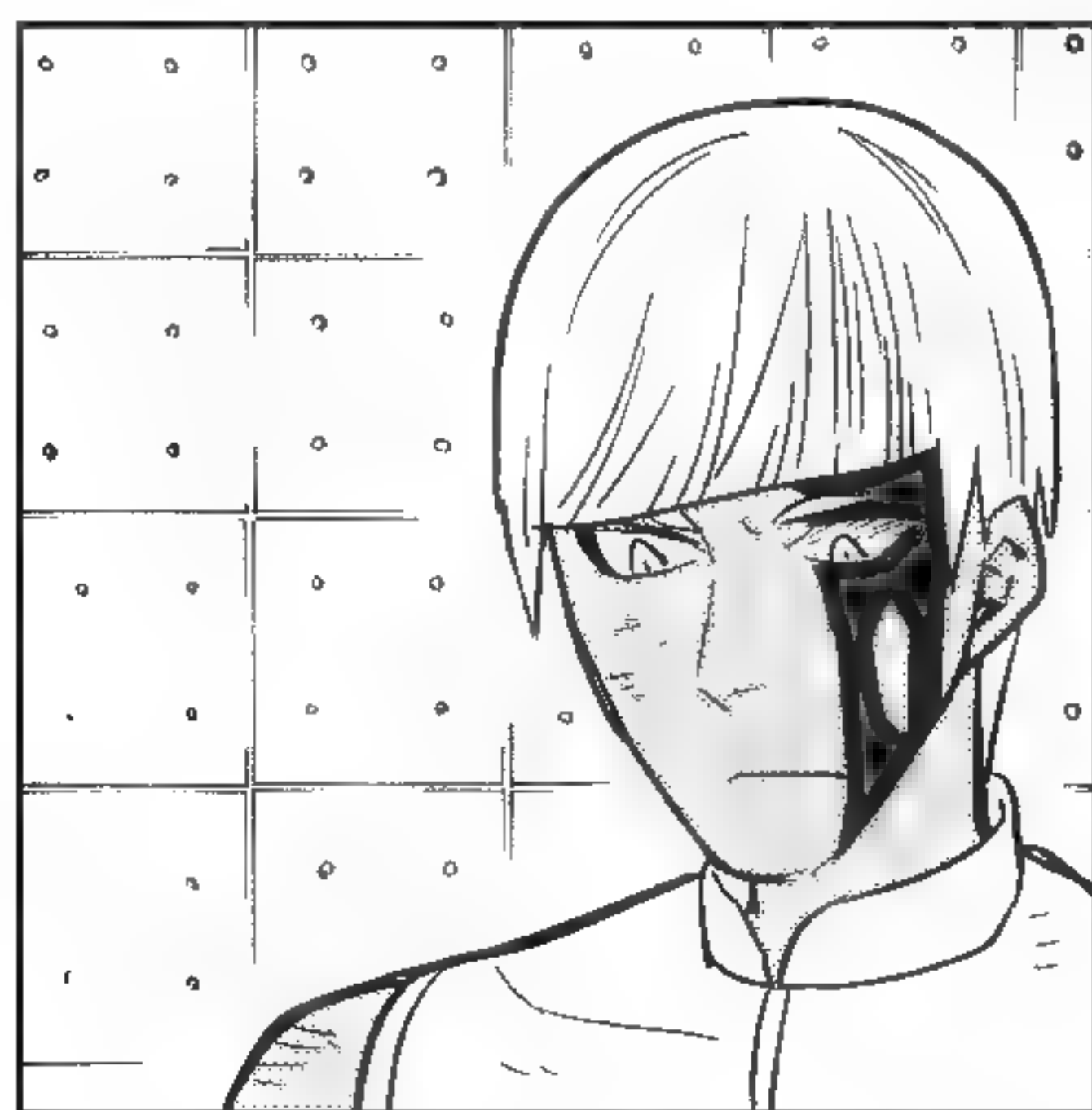
SHIPPOU-KUN
SAID HE NEEDED
TO BE TOUGHER
AS WELL, SO HE
LOCKED HIMSELF
IN THE TRAINING
ROOM.

TO
THE POINT
WHERE I'M
ACTUALLY
ENJOYING
IT!

THIS IS
A LOST
CAUSE.

AND
FINALLY,
PINK
SQUAD...









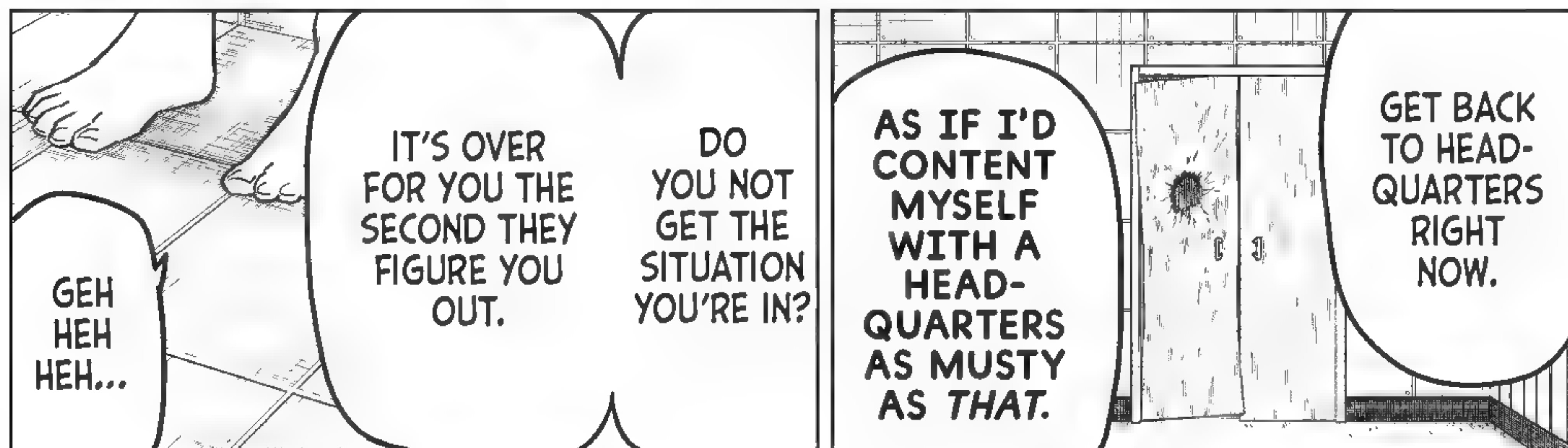
WHAT'RE
YOU ACTING
SO HIGH AND
MIGHTY FOR?

YOU.

...AND ANYWAY,
FORGET ABOUT
ME. WHAT'RE
YOU DOING?

I'LL
PRAISE
YOU FOR
THAT.

I DIDN'T
EXPECT YOU
TO REALLY
MAKE IT
THROUGH
THE TEST
UNHARMED.



GEH
HEH
HEH...

IT'S OVER
FOR YOU THE
SECOND THEY
FIGURE YOU
OUT.

DO
YOU NOT
GET THE
SITUATION
YOU'RE IN?

AS IF I'D
CONTENT
MYSELF
WITH A
HEAD-
QUARTERS
AS MUSTY
AS *THAT*.

GET BACK
TO HEAD-
QUARTERS
RIGHT
NOW.



OH?

YOU
SOUND SO
PESSIMISTIC
NOW.

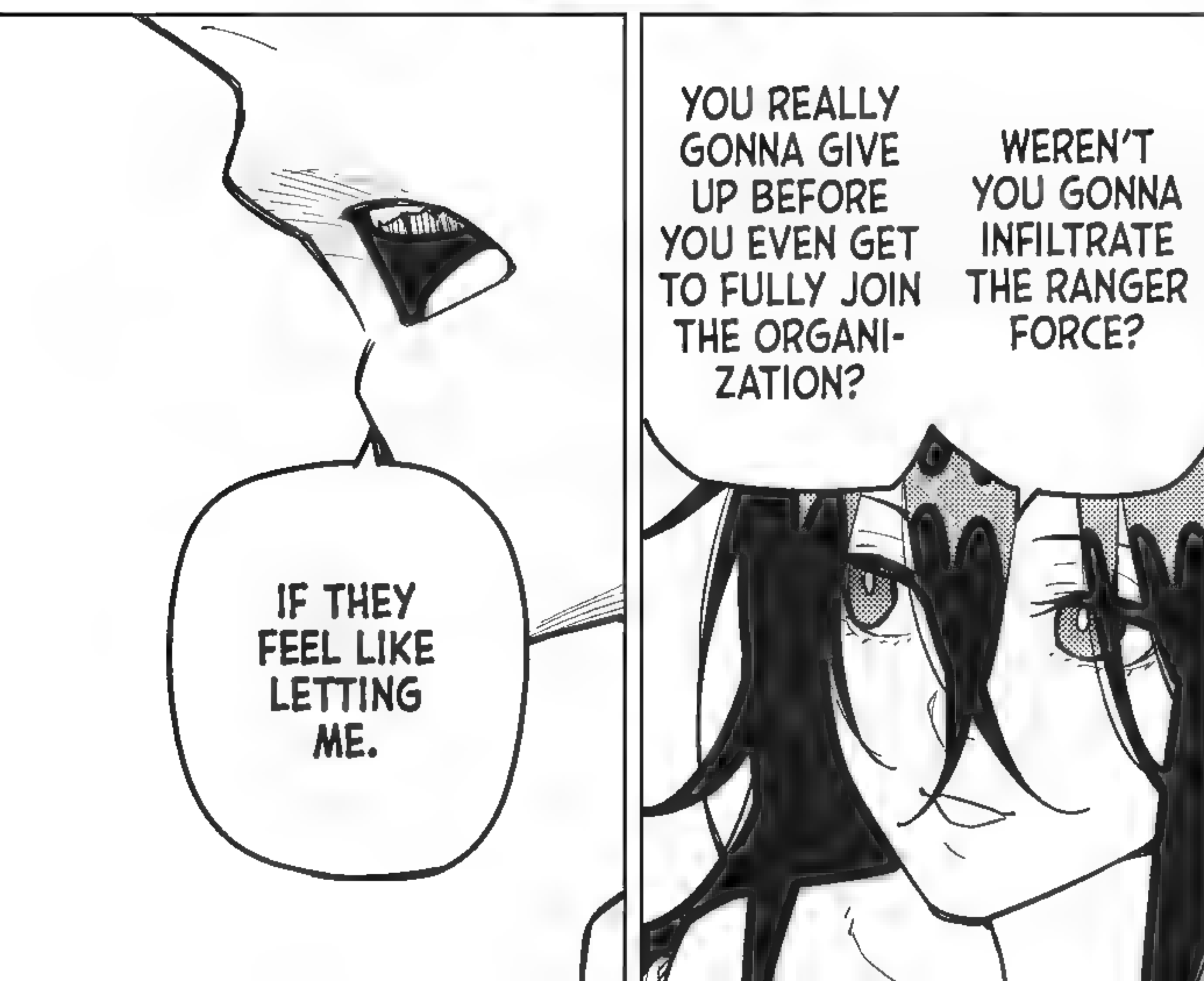
I WON'T BE
ABLE TO COVER
FOR YOU ANY-
MORE.



I KNOW.
I'LL WAIT
A LITTLE
LONGER.

JUST A
LITTLE.

SERIOUS-
LY. I'M
BEGGING
YOU...



IF THEY
FEEL LIKE
LETTING
ME.

YOU REALLY
GONNA GIVE
UP BEFORE
YOU EVEN GET
TO FULLY JOIN
THE ORGANI-
ZATION?

WEREN'T
YOU GONNA
INFILTRATE
THE RANGER
FORCE?



TODAY
MADE IT
CRYSTAL
CLEAR.

THEY
DON'T HAVE
ANY INTENTION
OF LETTING US
PASS.



ALL
THEY'RE
DOING IS
FORCING
US TO DO
MEANINGLESS
TRAINING.
THAT'S IT.

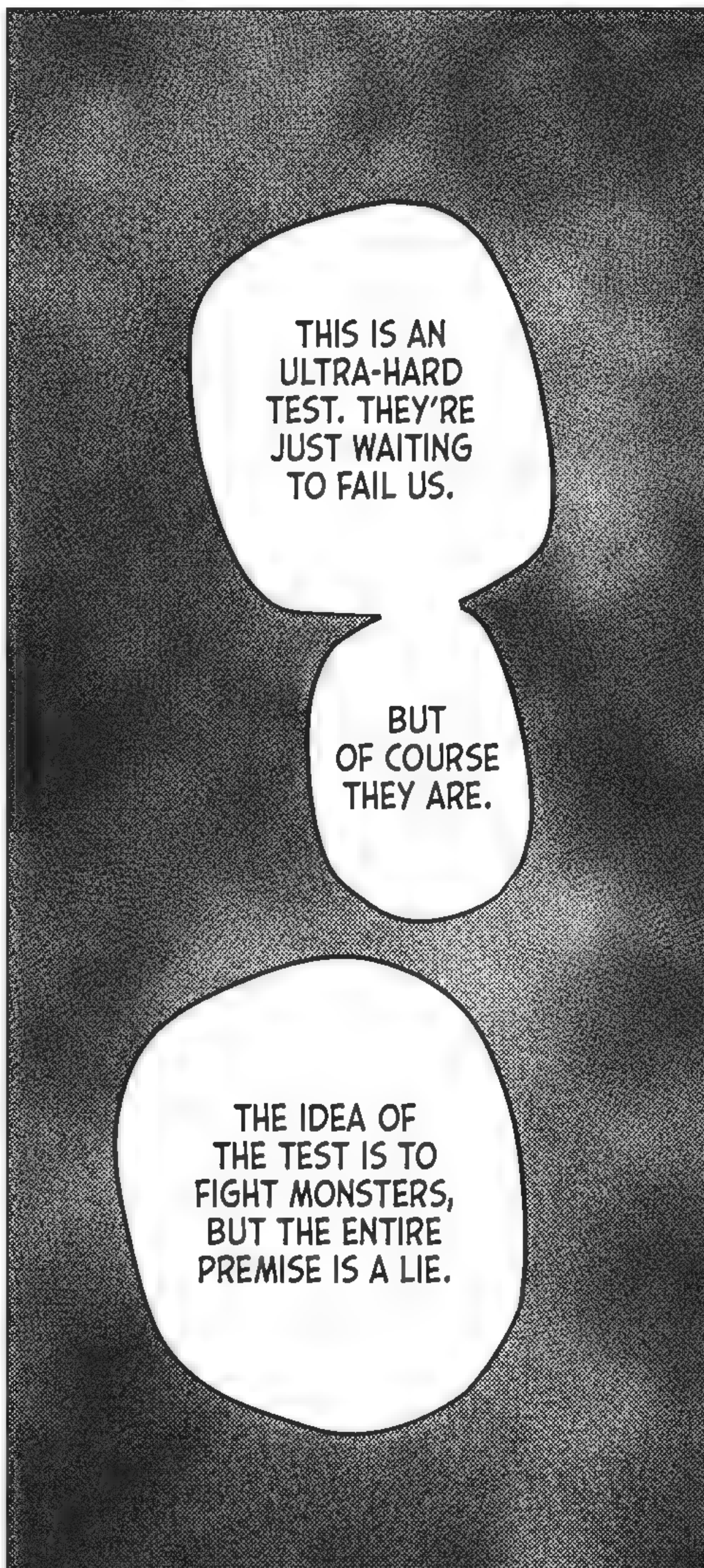
I BET
THE IDEA
THAT THEY'RE
RECRUITING
IS JUST FOR
SHOW, TOO.



AND I DON'T
MEAN THAT
FIGURATIVELY.

BUT
EVEN SO, I
WAS ABLE
TO WORK
WITH SHION
TO SURPRISE
ONE.

THE TEST
PROCTORS
ARE SO
POWERFUL
THAT IT'S
NOT EVEN
FAIR.



THIS IS AN
ULTRA-HARD
TEST. THEY'RE
JUST WAITING
TO FAIL US.

BUT
OF COURSE
THEY ARE.

THE IDEA OF
THE TEST IS TO
FIGHT MONSTERS,
BUT THE ENTIRE
PREMISE IS A LIE.



DAY ONE
OF THE
FINAL
EXAM
HAS
ENDED.

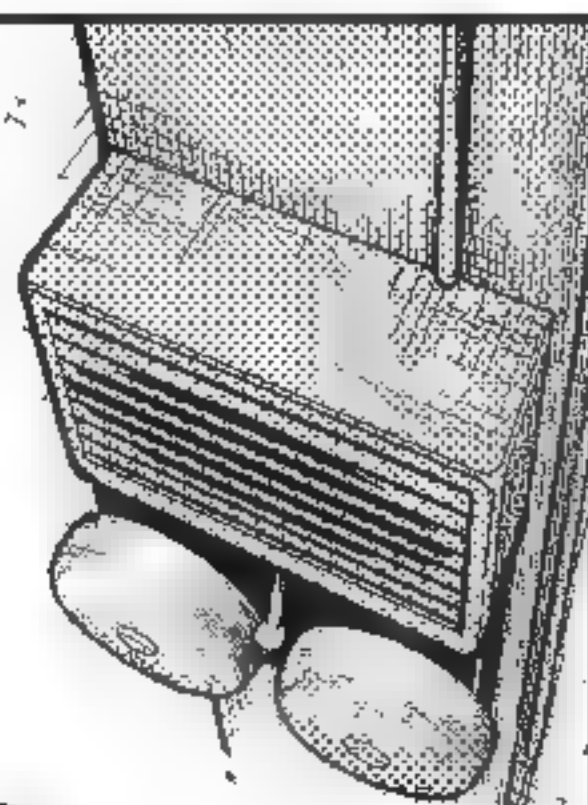


I ACTUALLY
MANAGED
A SURPRISE
ATTACK ON
ONE.



SO THAT
VOICE
CAME FROM
THERE...

STUPID
THING
SCARED
ME.



WHAM

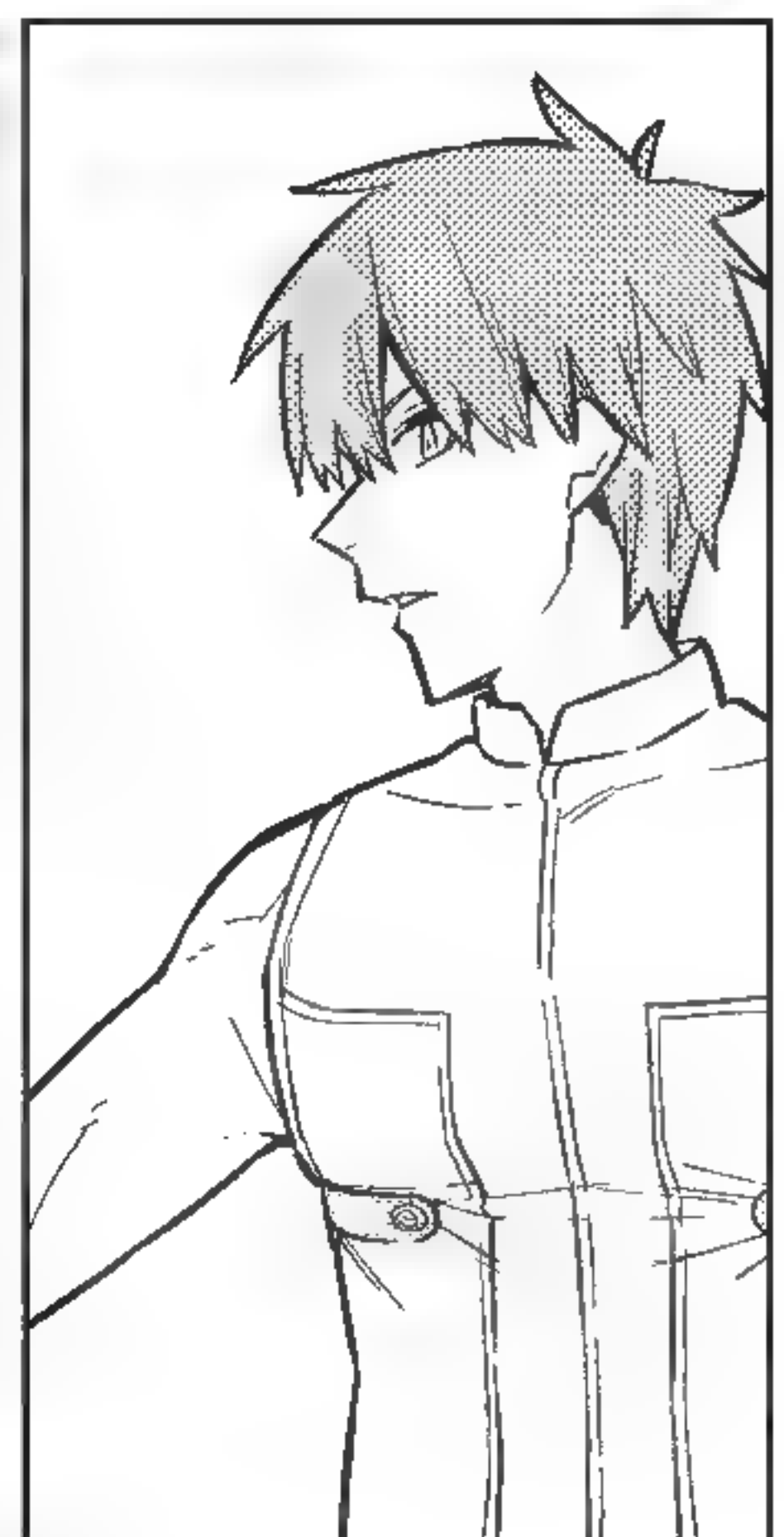
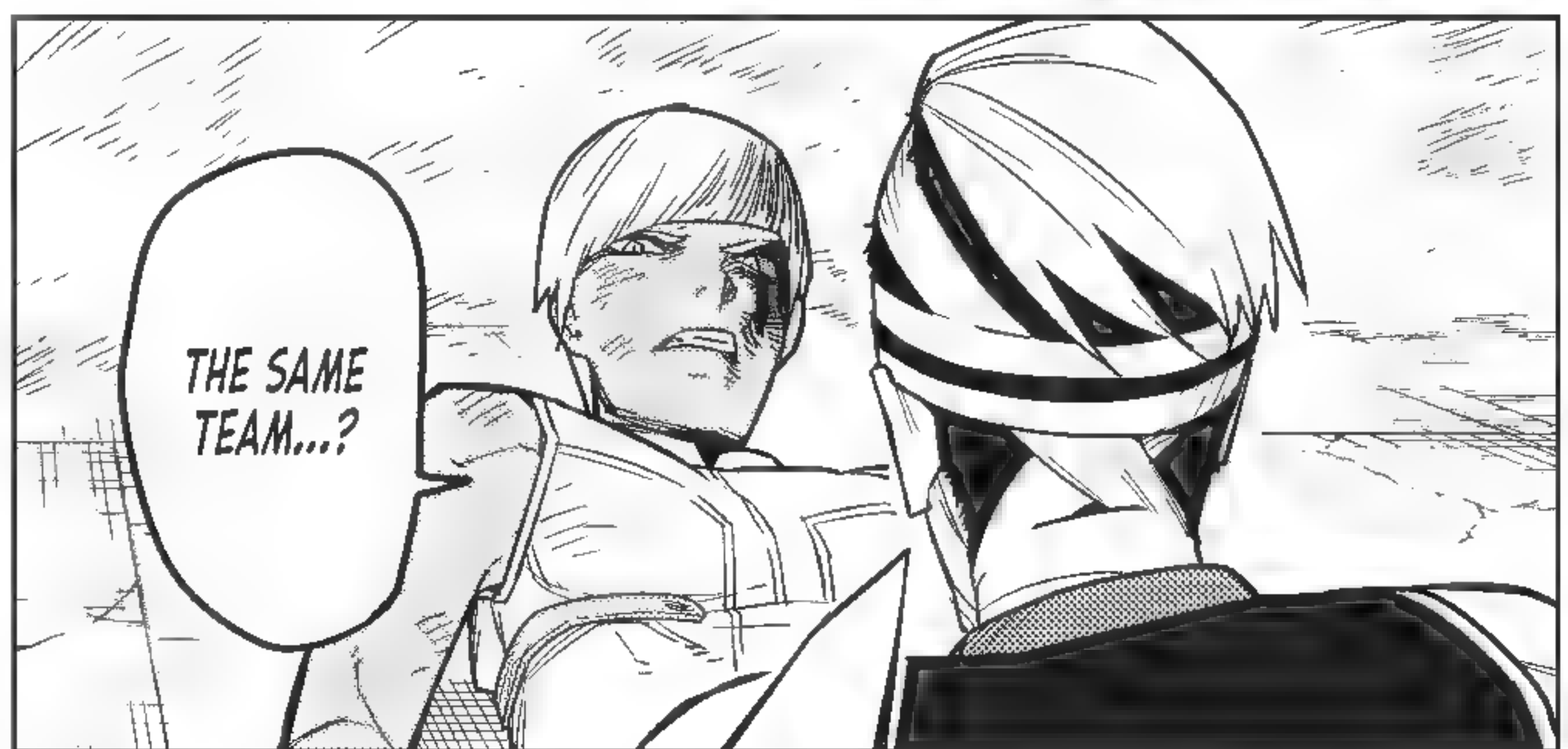
SHION-
KUN!

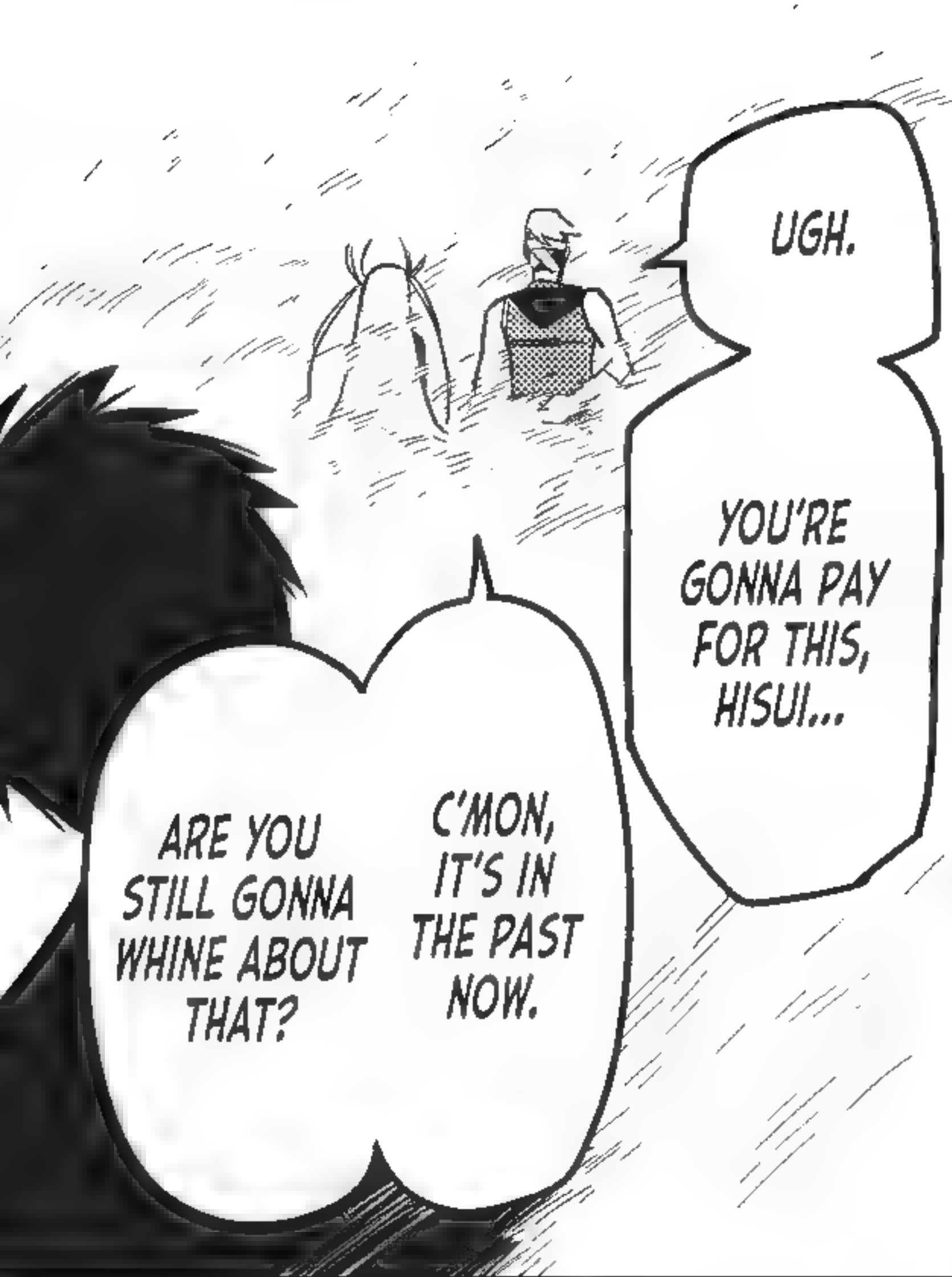


TIME FOR
A BONUS
ROUND!

C'MON,
YOU TWO!

YOU THINK
I'D CALL IT
QUITS AT A
PERFECT TIME
LIKE THIS?!





ARE YOU
STILL GONNA
WHINE ABOUT
THAT?

C'MON,
IT'S IN
THE PAST
NOW.

UGH.

YOU'RE
GONNA PAY
FOR THIS,
HISUI...



DID HE
MEAN...



SEE YA
TOMORROW.

TOO
BAD.



IT'S TIME TO
WITHDRAW.

ARE YOU
GUYS STILL
FIGHTING?



THERE
WAS ONLY
ONE KEY.

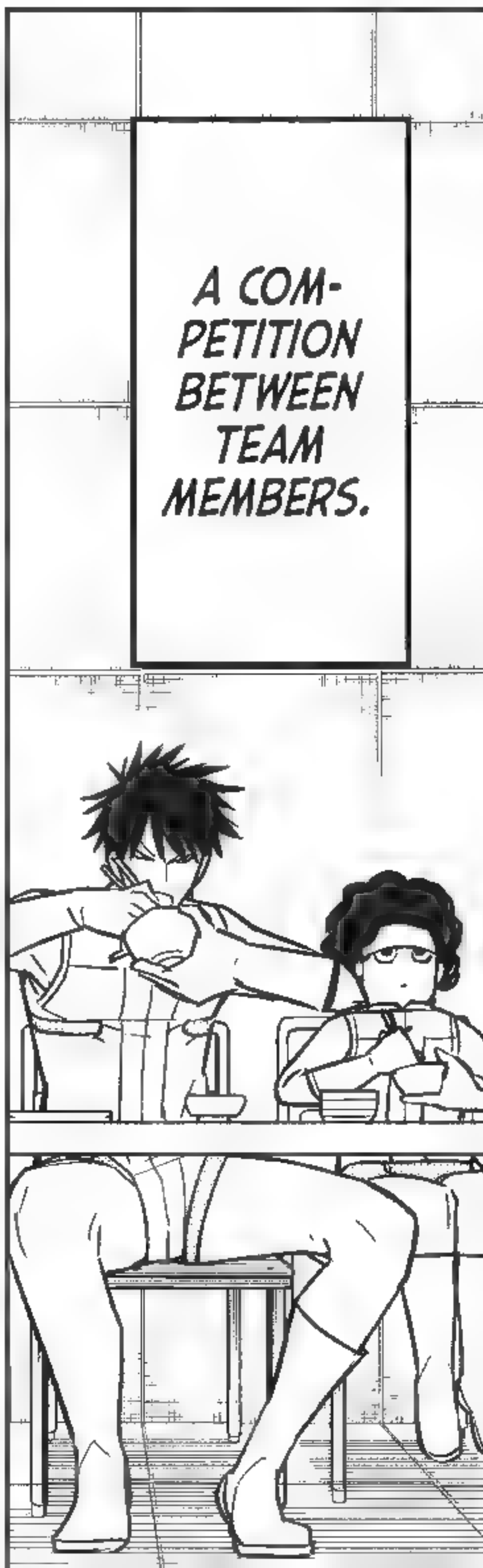
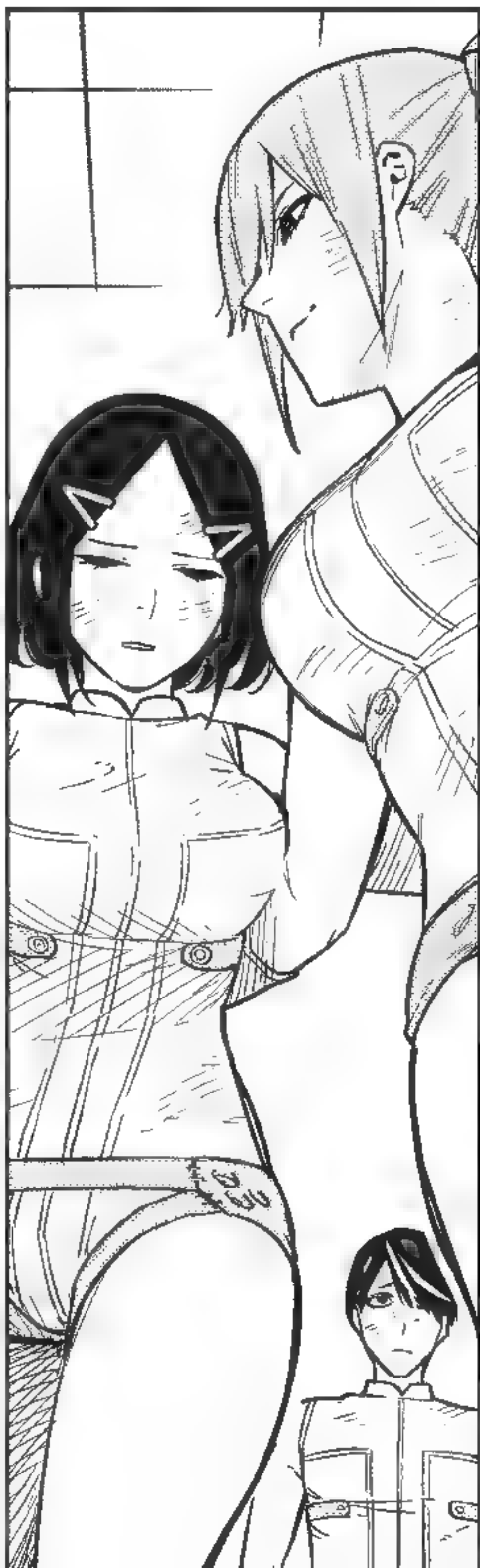
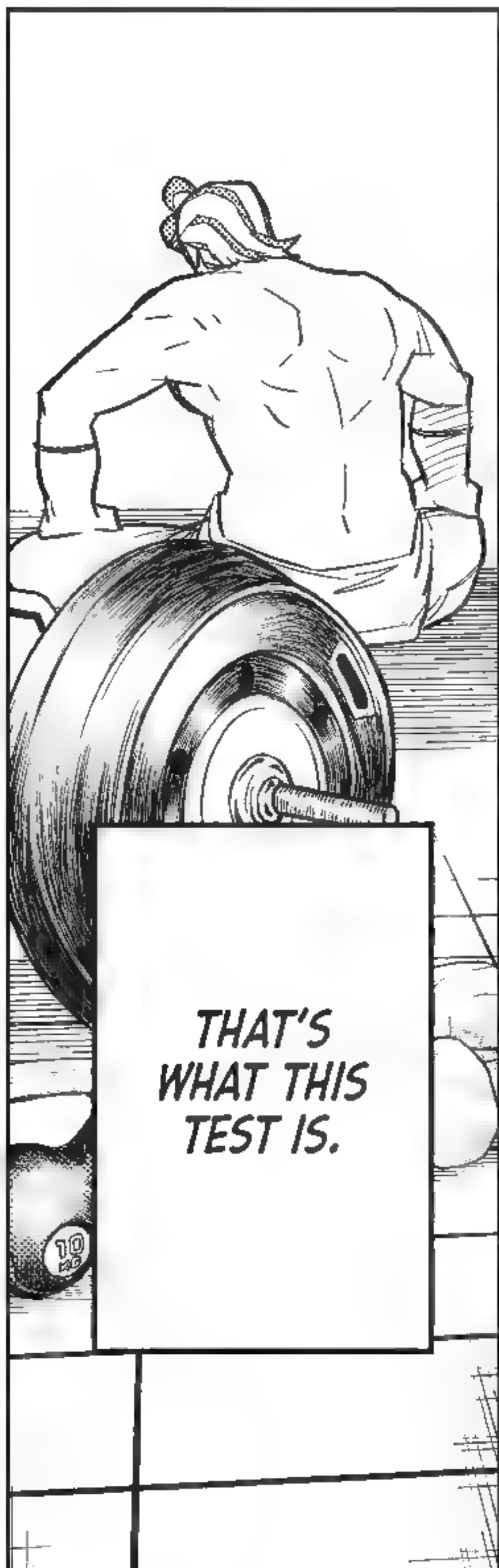
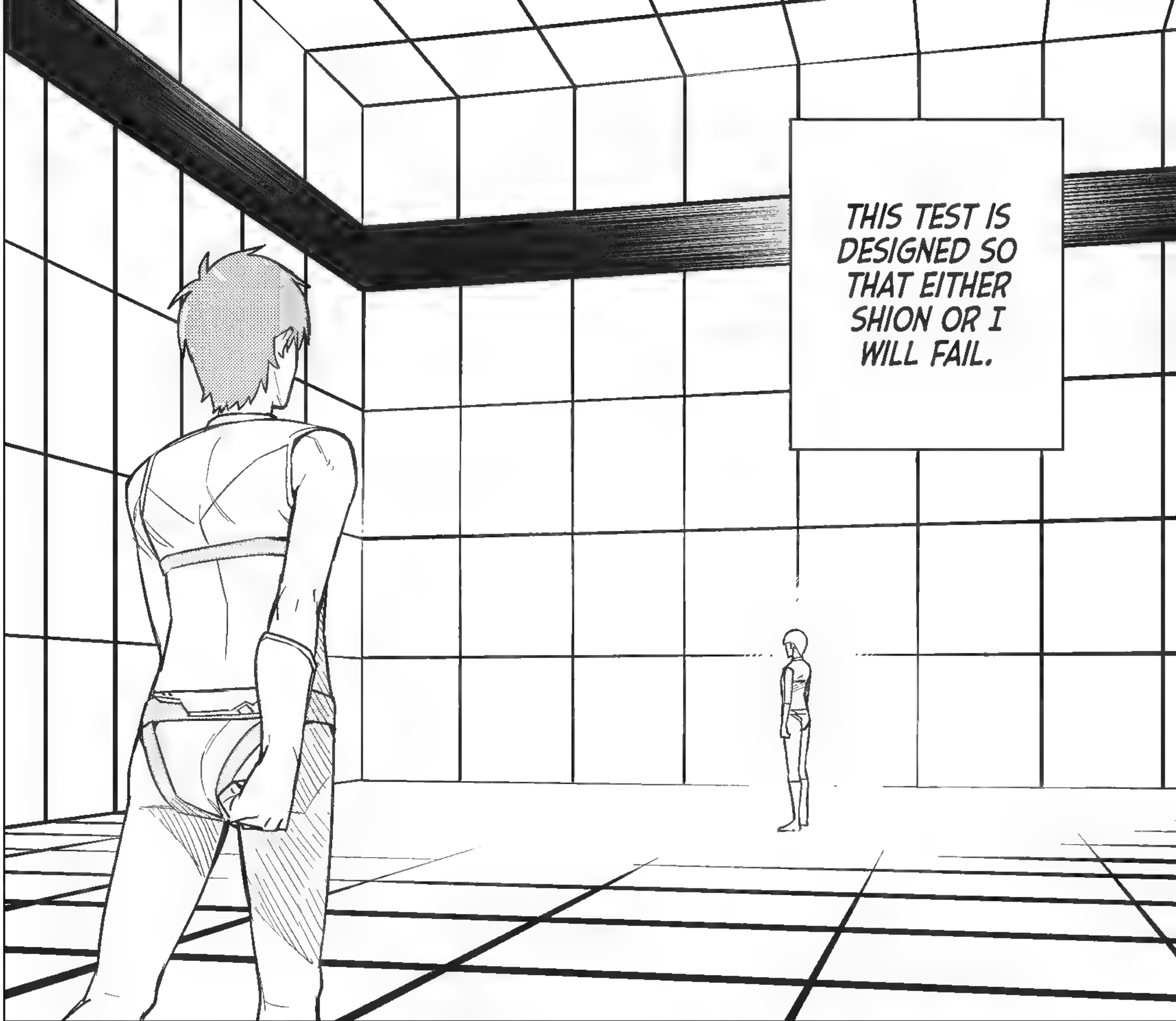


IT'S ONE
KEY PER
PERSON.

IF WHAT
TOKITA
IMPLIED IS
TRUE...

BUT DID HE
EVER SAY
THAT ONE KEY
WAS ENOUGH
FOR A TEAM?

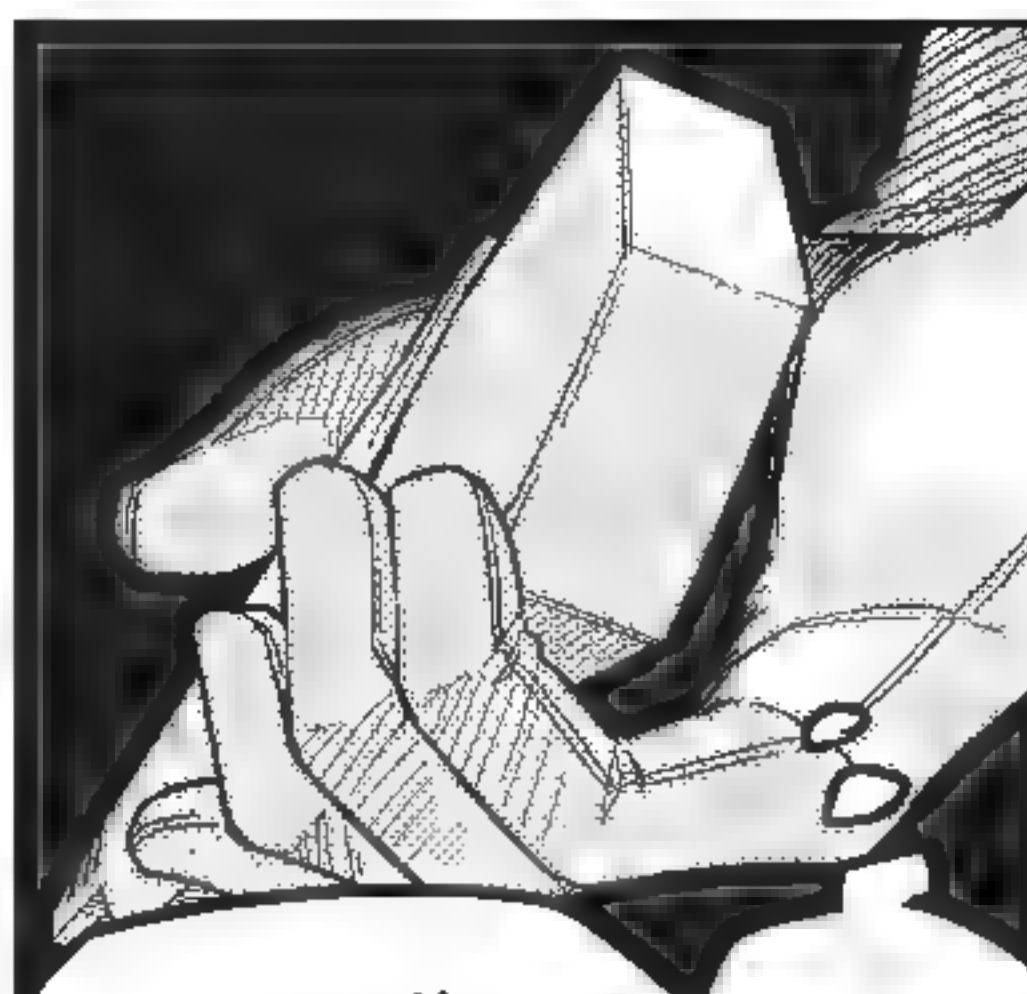
THE
INSTRUCTOR
TOLD US TO
TAKE THE KEY
FROM THEM.





**SAKURA-
MA.**

**WHY'D YOU
JOIN THE
RANGER
FORCE?**



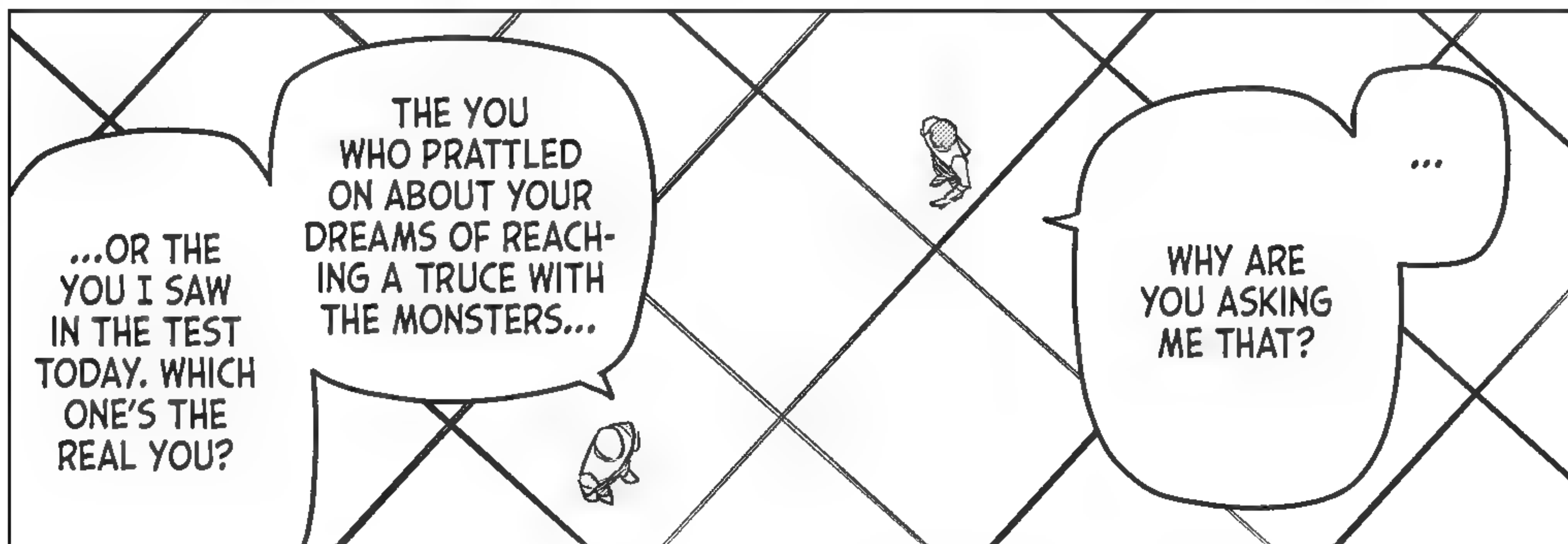
*I DON'T
THINK
I'VE DONE
ANYTHING TO
GIVE AWAY
MY TRUE
IDENTITY,
BUT...*

*THIS IS
SUSPI-
CIOUS...*



**SORRY TO
KEEP YOU
WAITING.**

**WHAT IS IT
YOU WANTED
TO TALK
ABOUT?**



**...OR THE
YOU I SAW
IN THE TEST
TODAY. WHICH
ONE'S THE
REAL YOU?**

**THE YOU
WHO PRATTLED
ON ABOUT YOUR
DREAMS OF REACH-
ING A TRUCE WITH
THE MONSTERS...**

**WHY ARE
YOU ASKING
ME THAT?**



!



**...I WANT TO
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE REALLY
ABOUT.**

**IF WE'RE
JOINING
FORCES
TOMORROW
...**

*BUT I'LL
KICK HIM
TO THE
CURB IF
WE'RE
COMPETI-
TORS.*

*I'LL WORK
WITH HIM IF
IT'S WORTH
IT TO ME...*



*I'M NOT
GONNA
FALTER.*

*I NEVER
INTENDED
ON REACHING
MY GOAL
BY MAKING
FRIENDS.*

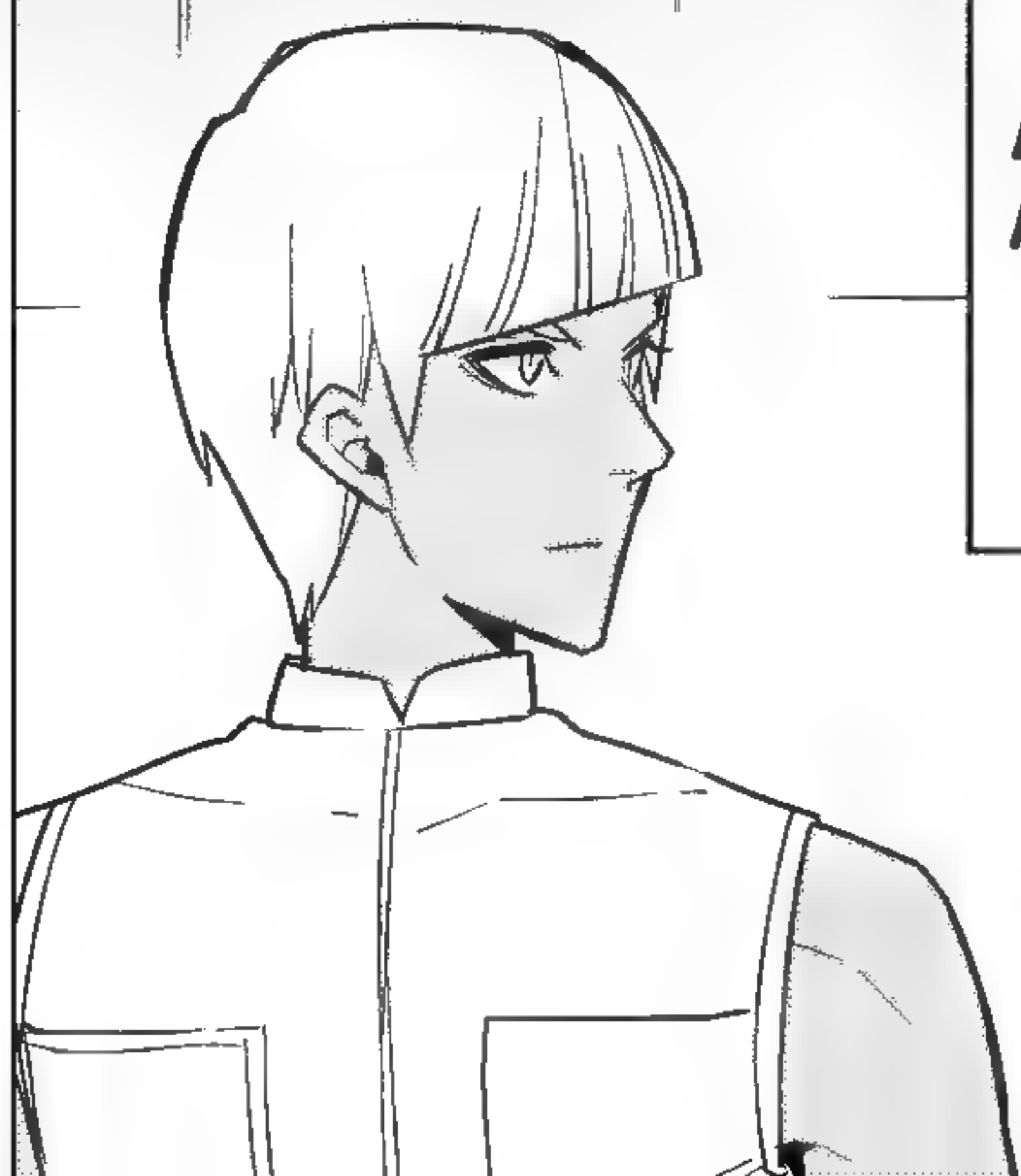
*I DON'T
CARE WHAT
THE RULES
ARE IN THIS
EXAM.*

*I'LL DO
WHATEVER
IT TAKES TO
MAKE OUR
LONG-AWAITED
DREAM AS
MONSTERS
COME TRUE.*



SHION.

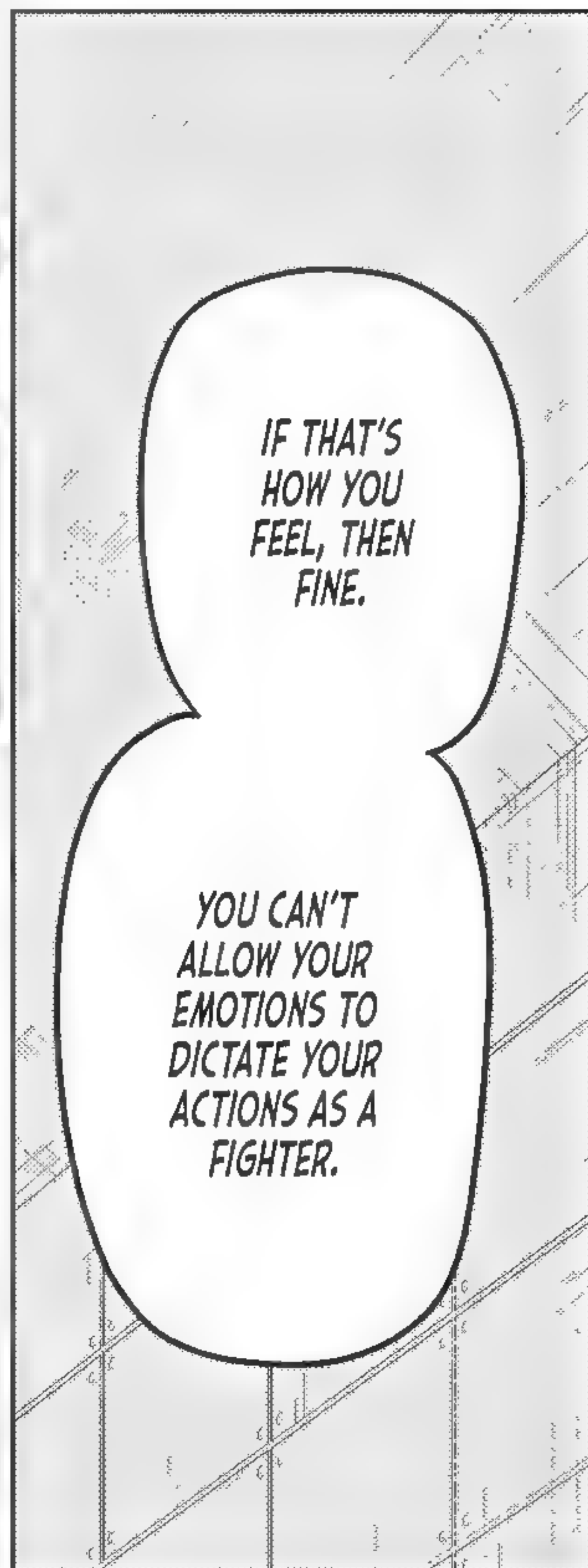
*I'M GOING TO
BE THE ONE TO
PUT AN END TO
YOUR DREAMS.*





THE SURFACE-DWELLERS ARE ALL WORTHLESS BASTARDS. EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM.

I'VE ONLY COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT BETTER OVER THESE LAST THIRTEEN YEARS.



IF THAT'S HOW YOU FEEL, THEN FINE.

YOU CAN'T ALLOW YOUR EMOTIONS TO DICTATE YOUR ACTIONS AS A FIGHTER.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME THAT NOW.

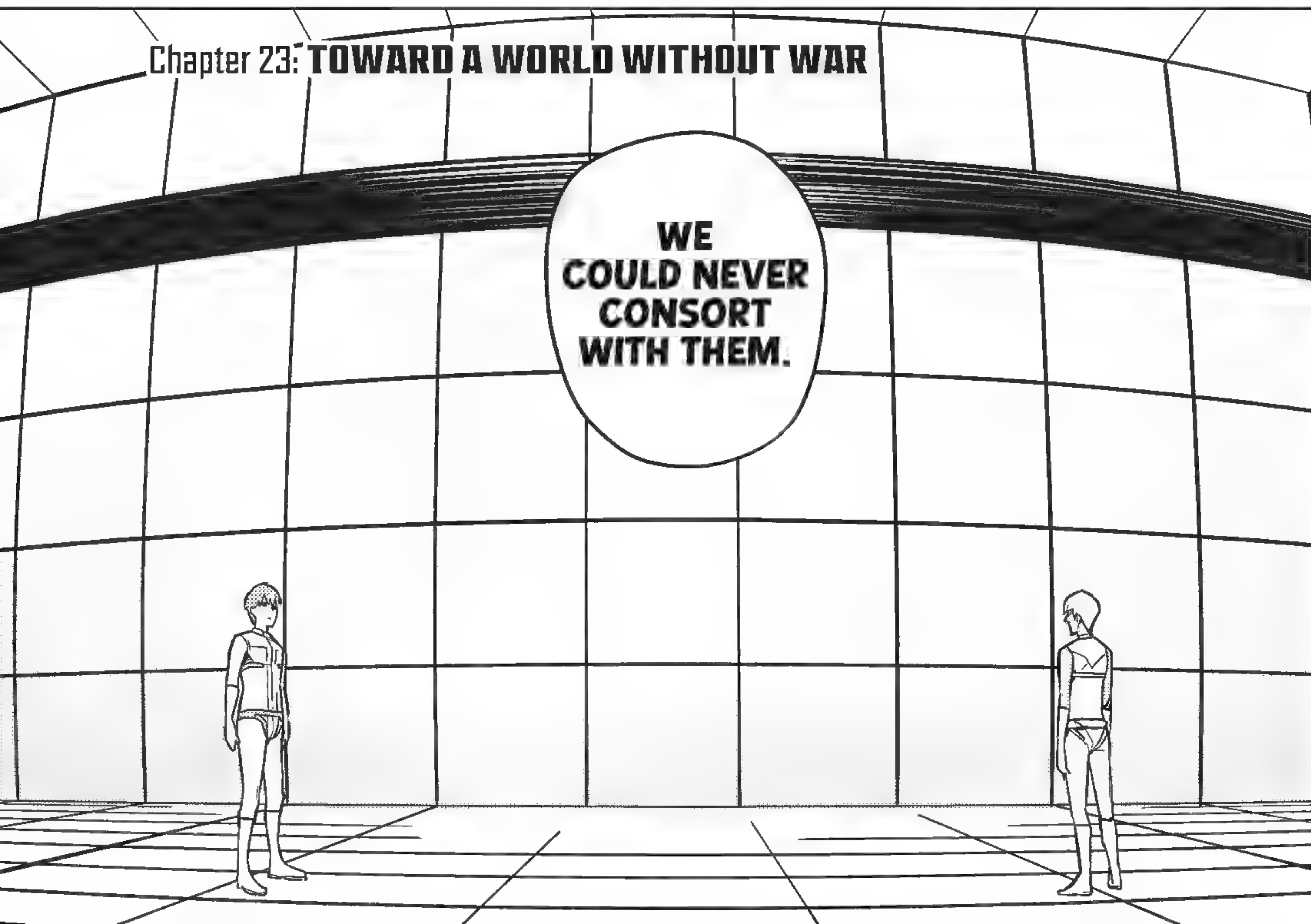
I KNOW WE'RE MONSTERS.



SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE THE ONE LETTING YOUR EMOTIONS TAKE OVER...

THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS HIBIKI.

Chapter 23: **TOWARD A WORLD WITHOUT WAR**



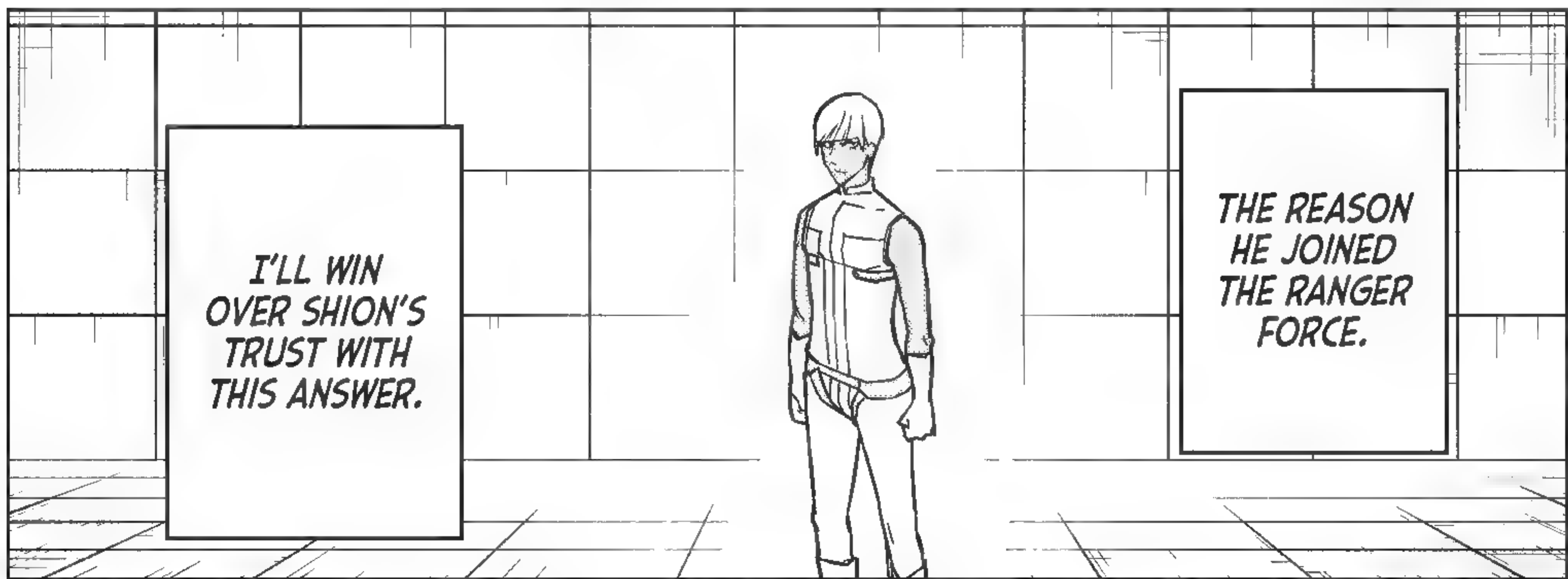
**WE
COULD NEVER
CONSORT
WITH THEM.**



MY SISTER AND I
LIVED PERFECTLY
HAPPY LIVES WITH
OUR PARENTS.

DON'T GET IT
WRONG. JUST
REPEAT WHAT
HIBIKI TOLD
YOU.

IT HAPPENED
THIRTEEN YEARS
AGO.



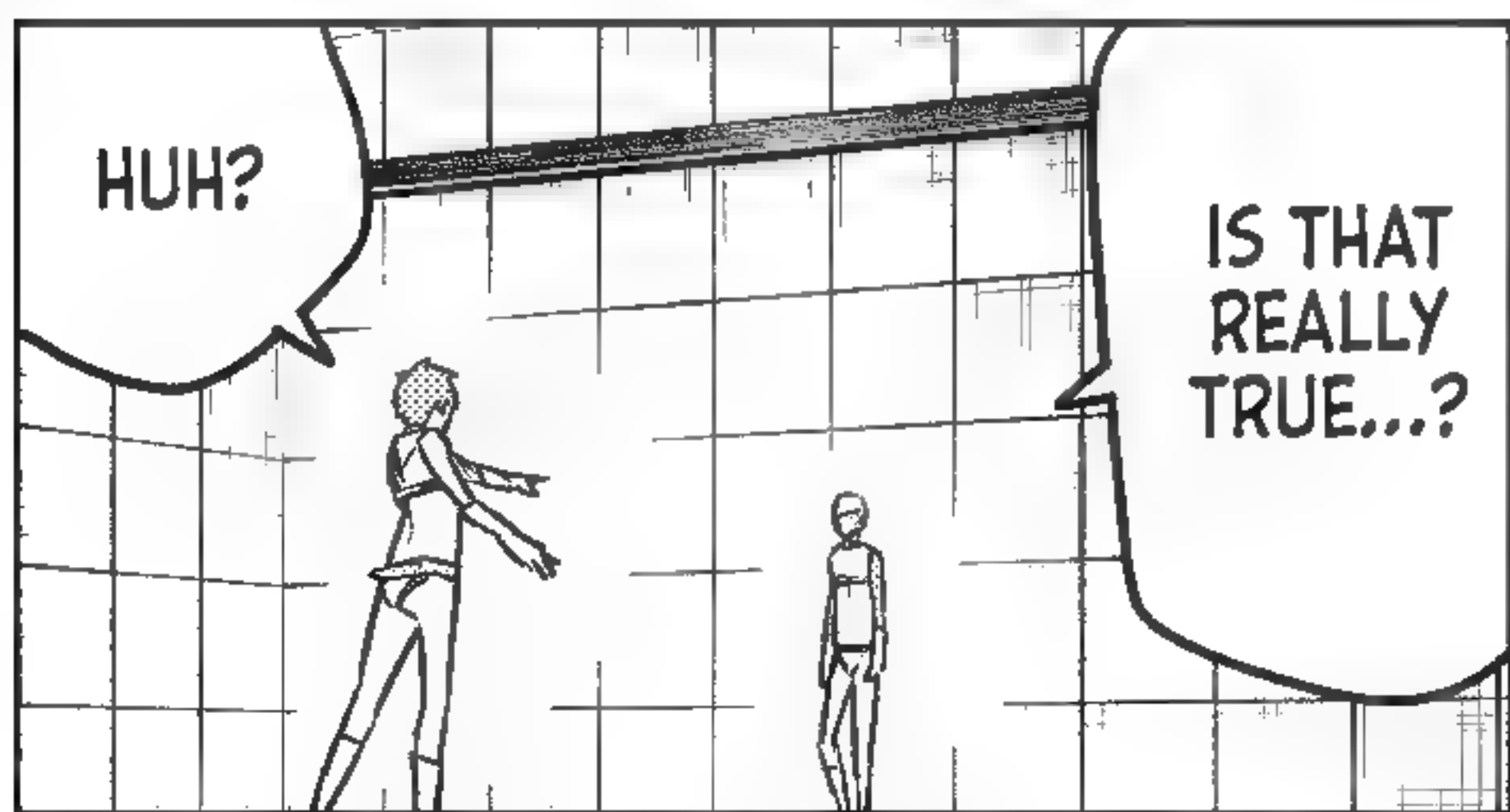
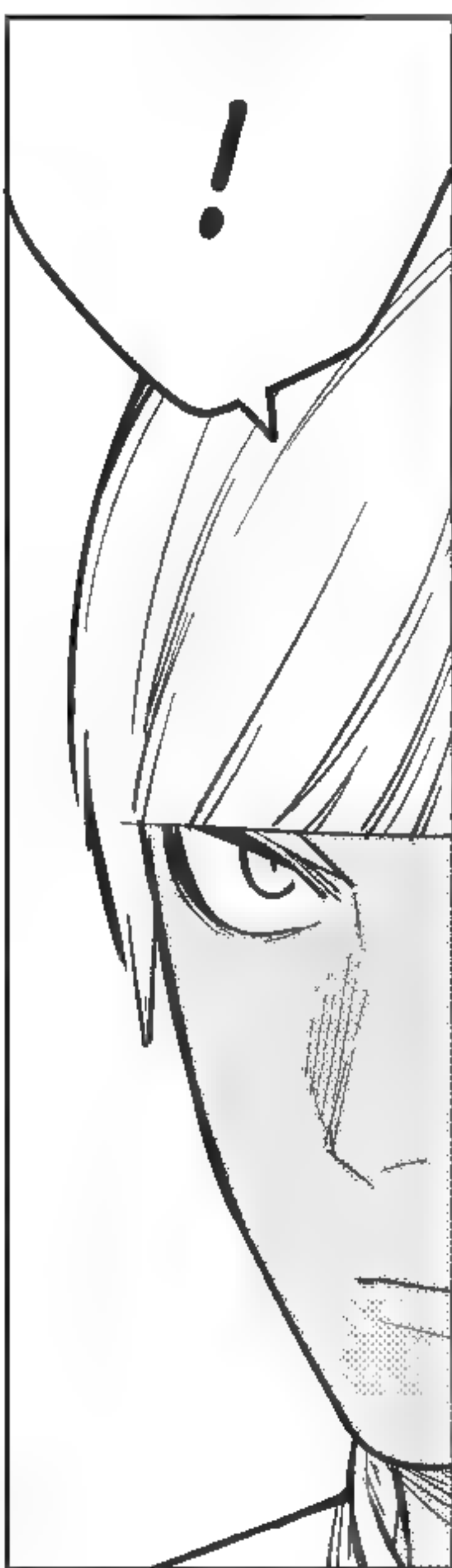
I'LL WIN
OVER SHION'S
TRUST WITH
THIS ANSWER.

THE REASON
HE JOINED
THE RANGER
FORCE.



I BEAT DOWN
THE RANGER
FORCE'S DOORS
BECAUSE OF HOW
MUCH I LOOKED
UP TO HIM.

JUST AS IT
LOOKED LIKE
THERE WAS
NOWHERE FOR
ME AND MY
SISTER TO
GO, THAT'S
WHEN THE
BLUE KEEPER
RESCUED US.



HUH?

IS THAT
REALLY
TRUE...?



THE
APPEARANCE OF
THE FLOATING
FORTRESS ONLY
MADE MY PARENTS'
IDEOLOGY MORE
EXTREME.

AND THAT'S
WHEN THE
MONSTER WHO
CALLED ITSELF
GOD APPEARED.



IT ALL
HAPPENED
IN A
FLASH...

I-I'M NOT
SURE.

CRAP...



I'VE GOT
A SCORE TO
SETTLE WITH
THAT THING,
TOO.

I
BET.

SURELY IT
WAS ONE OF
THEIR BOSSES.



...

IT GOT MY
BROTHER.

I'M GOING
TO TRACK
THAT THING
DOWN.



TELL
ME MORE
ABOUT IT.

THE MONSTER
THAT CALLED
ITSELF GOD.



NOT
THAT THERE'S
ANY WAY TO
KNOW THE TRUE
IDENTITY OF THIS
GOD MONSTER
NOW, SINCE ALL
THE BOSSES
WERE KILLED.

I KNOW
THAT
THIRTEEN
YEARS
AGO...

...THERE WAS A
PERIOD OF ONE
YEAR WHEN OUR
BOSSES RAN
RAMPANT OVER
THE SURFACE.

IT'S
NOT THAT
UNUSUAL
OF A
STORY.



I JUST HAD TO SIT THERE AND WATCH...

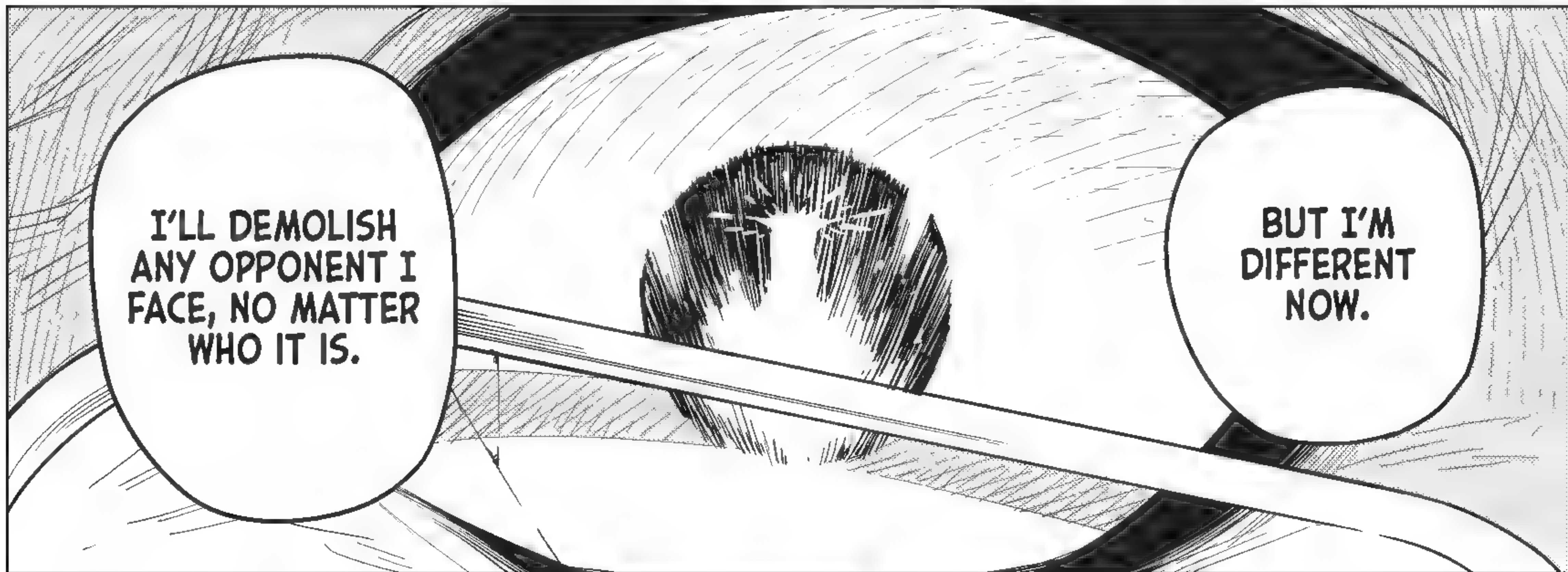
THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO.

...AS MY BROTHER WAS CRUSHED AND DESTROYED.



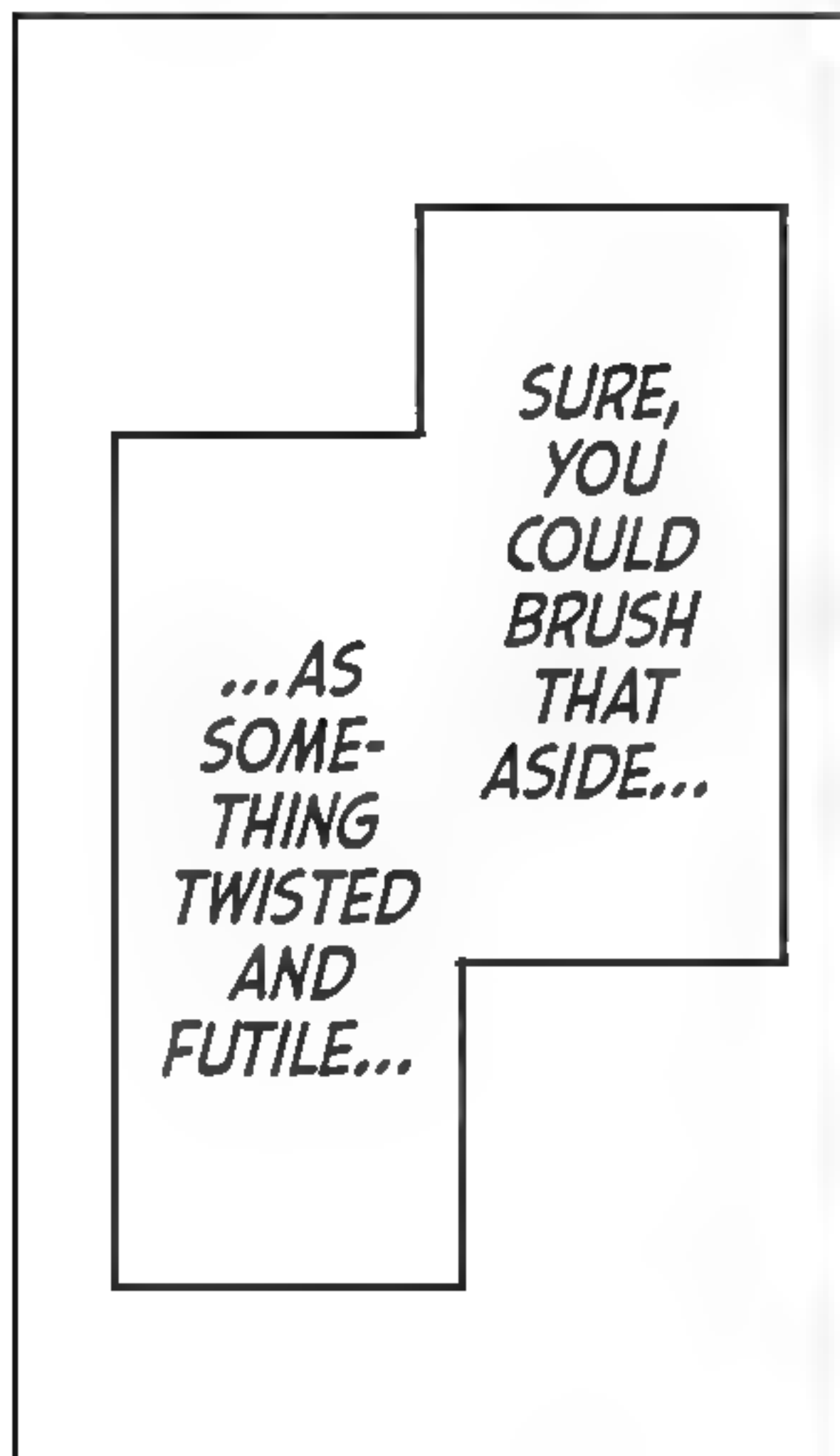
BUT THE BOSSES' CRUELTY IS ON A WHOLE OTHER LEVEL COMPARED TO THE FIGHTERS.

MY BIG BROTHER WAS A MEMBER OF THE RANGER FORCE.



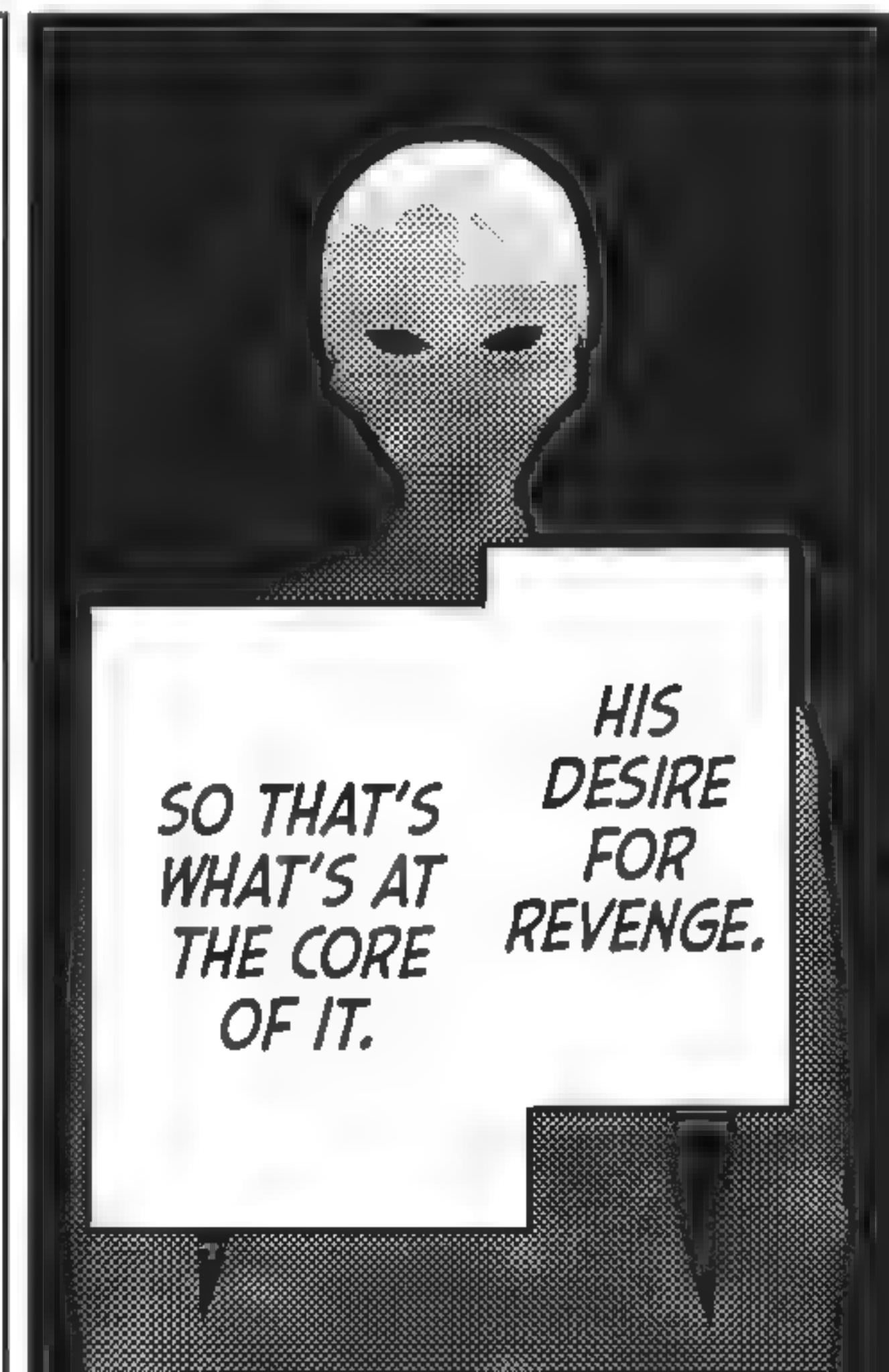
I'LL DEMOLISH ANY OPPONENT I FACE, NO MATTER WHO IT IS.

BUT I'M DIFFERENT NOW.



...AS SOMETHING TWISTED AND FUTILE...

SURE, YOU COULD BRUSH THAT ASIDE...



SO THAT'S WHAT'S AT THE CORE OF IT.

HIS DESIRE FOR REVENGE.



NOW I GET WHY THIS DAMN IDIOT ALWAYS CHARGES IN SO RECKLESSLY.

ISN'T
THAT BOSS
ALREADY
DEAD,
THOUGH?

...BUT
I'M FAR TOO
FAMILIAR WITH
THE STRENGTH
OF HIS
CONVICTIONS.

I NEED TO
BREAK THEM
FOR GOOD.
RIGHT HERE.

...EVEN
IF IT'S
RISKY.

THIS WAS
A LONG
TIME AGO,
RIGHT?

IF YOU
CAN'T FIND
THE BOSS, IT'S
POSSIBLE THAT
IT WAS ALREADY
DEFEATED A
WHILE BACK BY
THE DRAGON
KEEPERS.

HUH?

I NEED
IT TO BE
ALIVE.

I DON'T KNOW WHY,
BUT THE BOSSES
THAT SHOW UP IN
THOSE ARE ALWAYS
SO PATHETIC.

THERE'S NO
RECORD OF IT
EVER APPEARING
IN THE SUNDAY
SHOWDOWN.

ACK...

WELL, YEAH...
THOSE ARE
FAKES THAT
WE MIMIC...

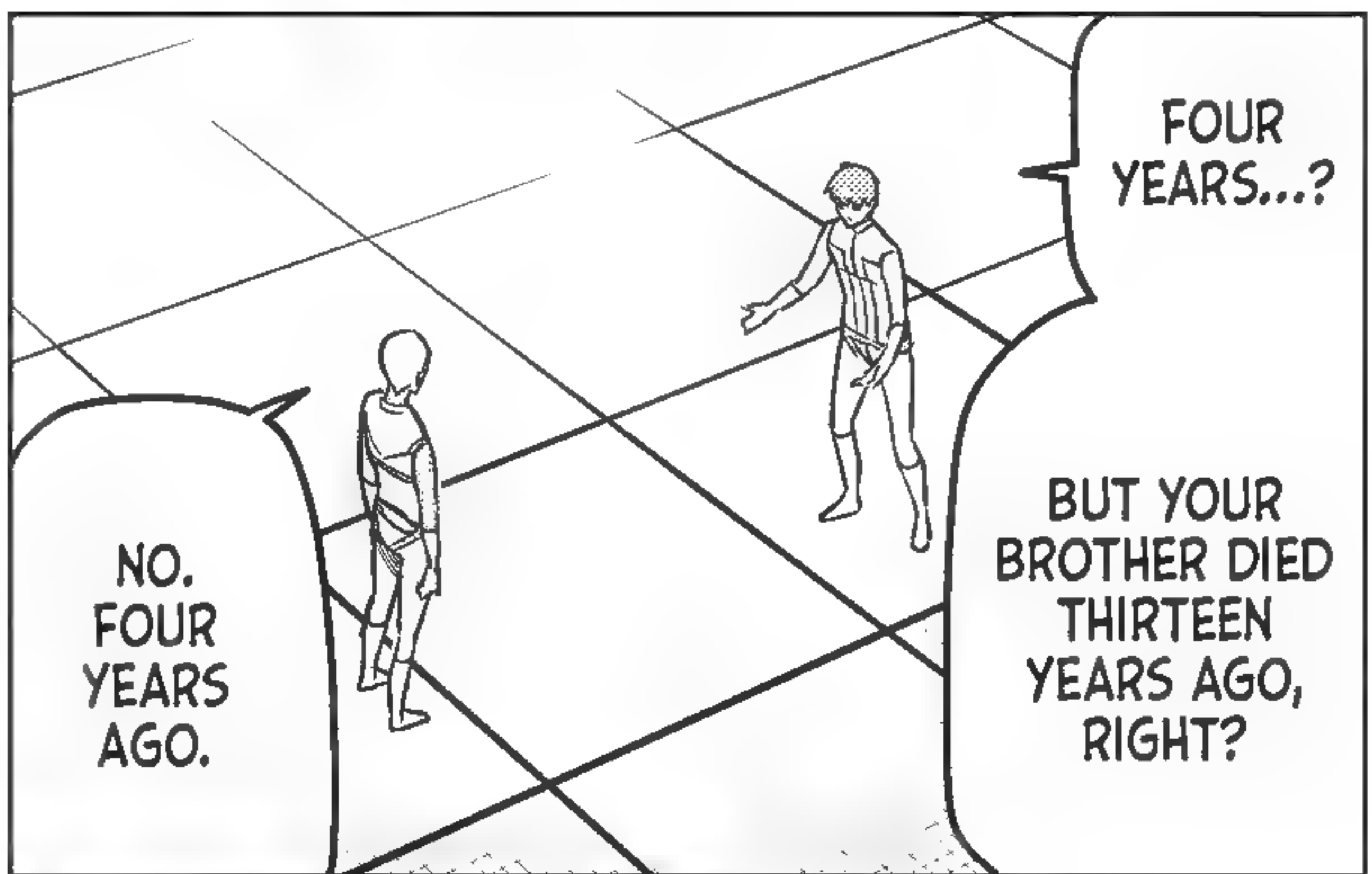


...TRYING
TO CLEAR THE
STAIN ON MY
BROTHER'S
NAME.

I'VE
ALREADY
SPENT FOUR
YEARS...



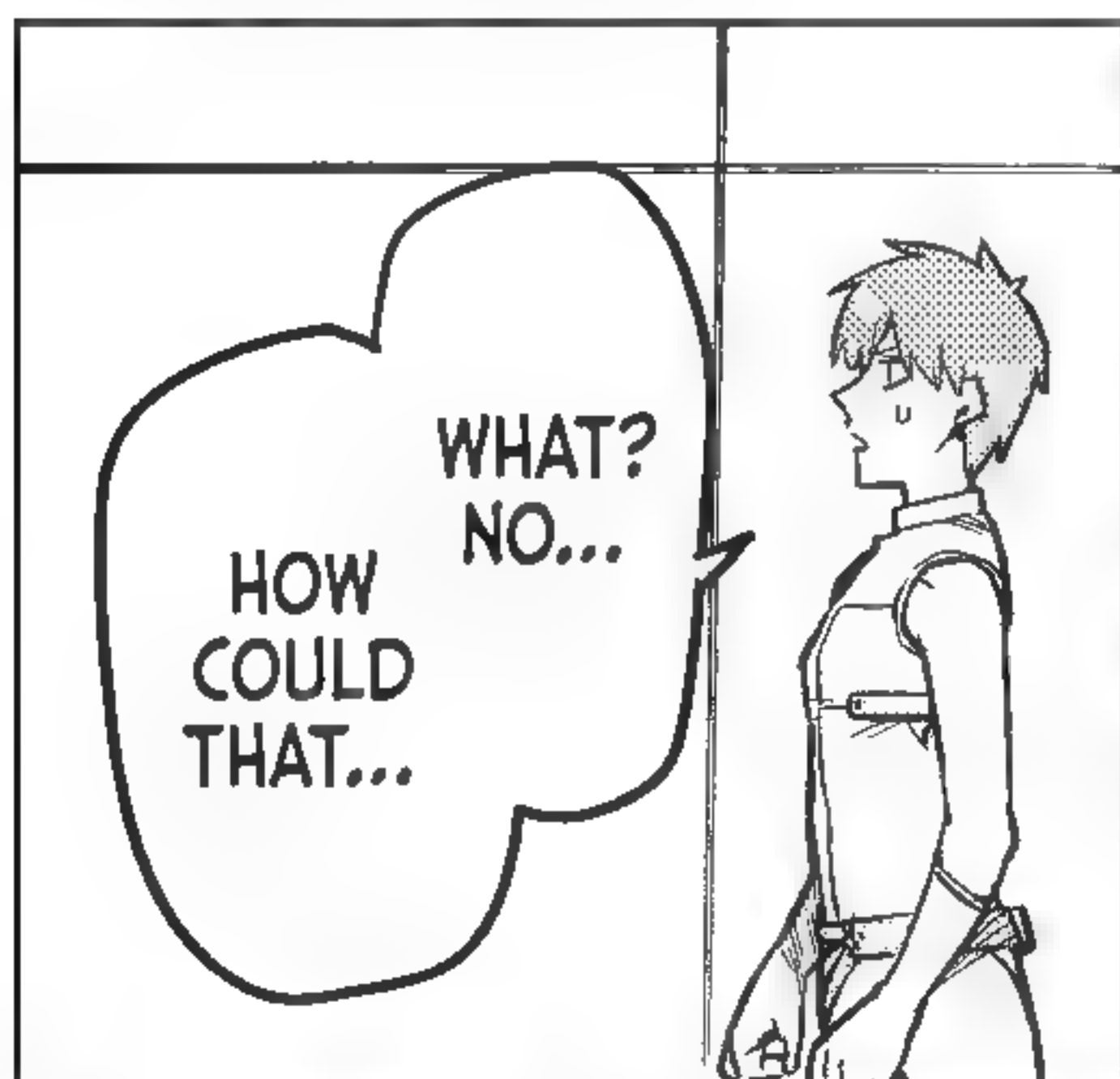
THERE'S
NO WAY
THAT'S
POSSIBLE!



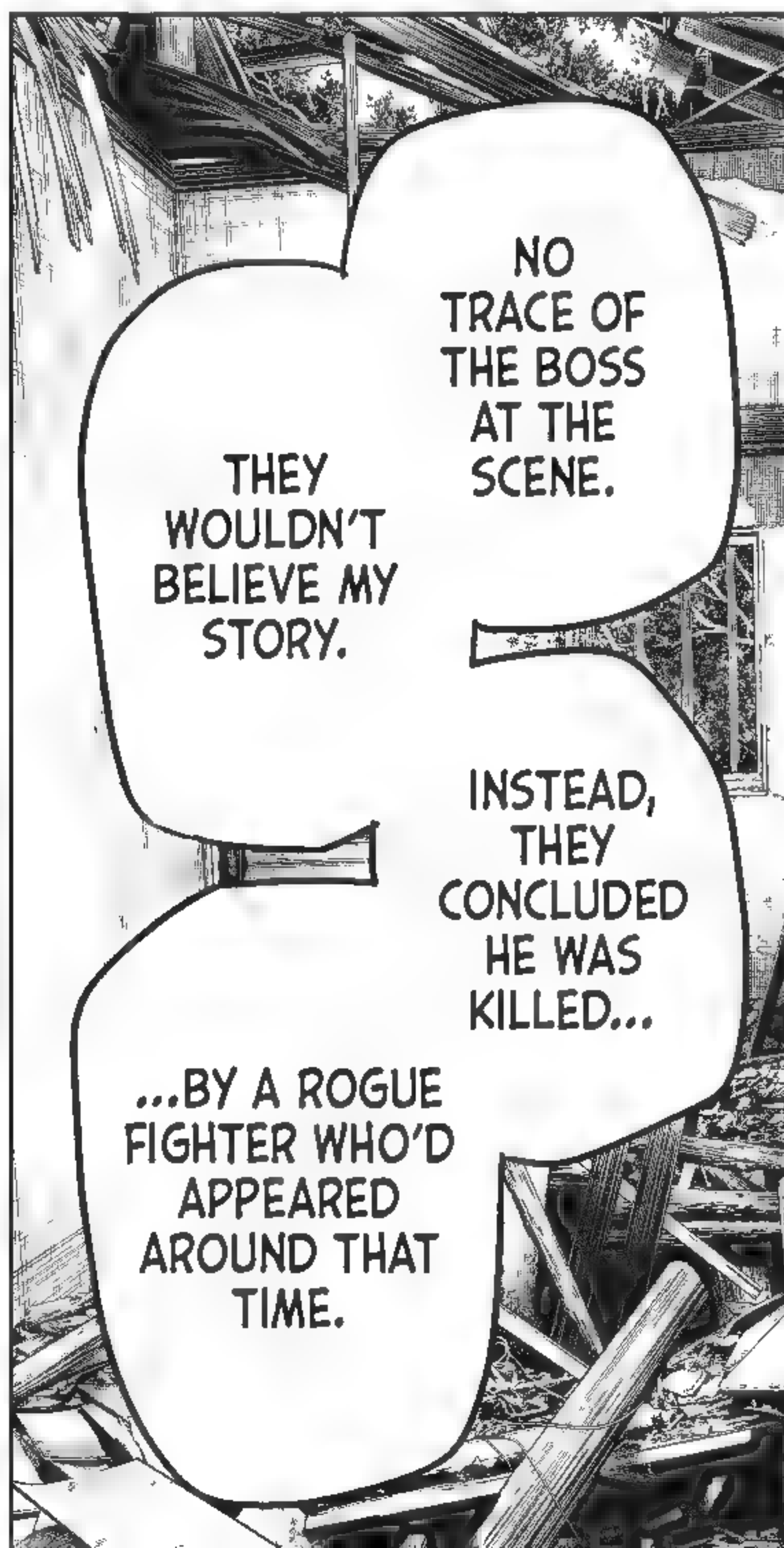
FOUR
YEARS...?

BUT YOUR
BROTHER DIED
THIRTEEN
YEARS AGO,
RIGHT?

NO.
FOUR
YEARS
AGO.



WHAT?
NO...
HOW
COULD
THAT...

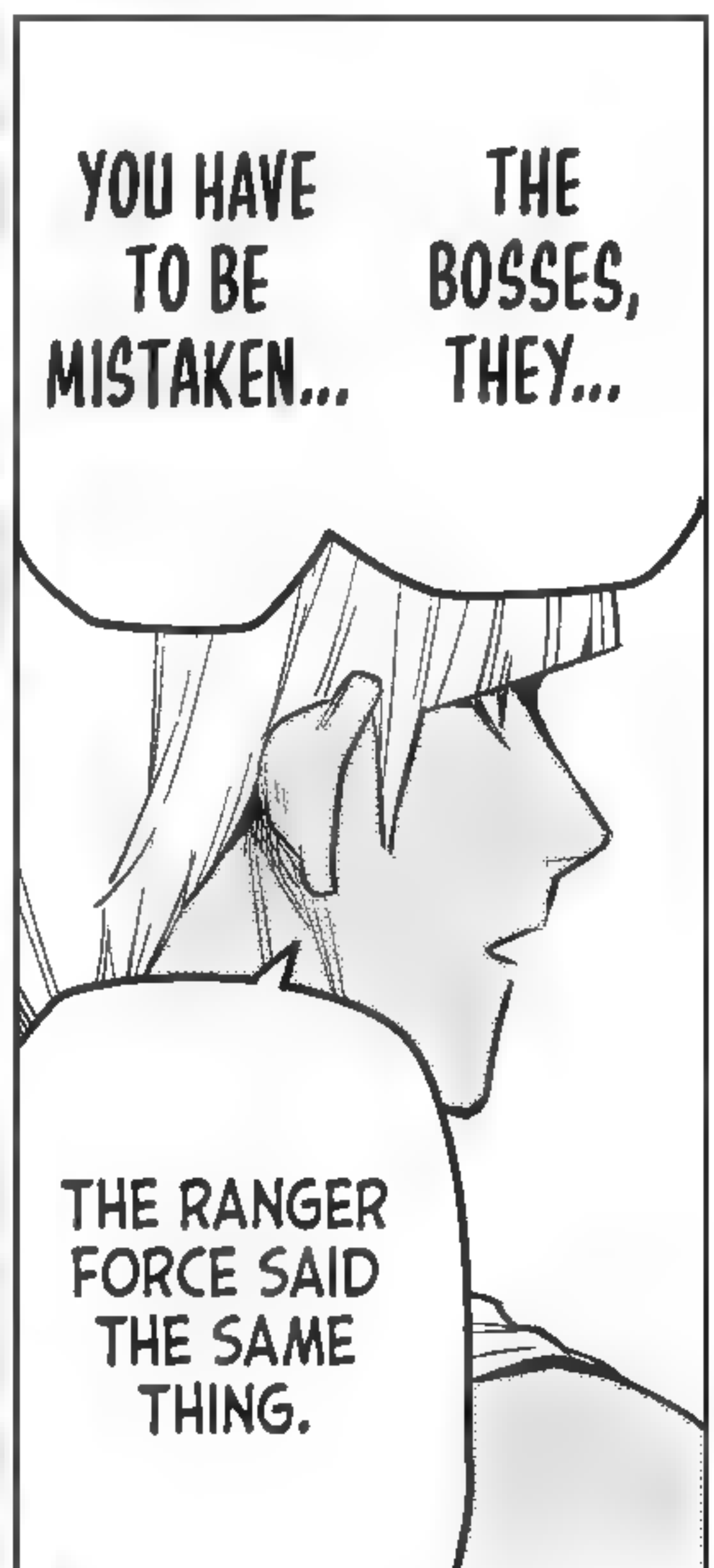


NO
TRACE OF
THE BOSS
AT THE
SCENE.

THEY
WOULDN'T
BELIEVE MY
STORY.

INSTEAD,
THEY
CONCLUDED
HE WAS
KILLED...

...BY A ROGUE
FIGHTER WHO'D
APPEARED
AROUND THAT
TIME.



YOU HAVE
TO BE
MISTAKEN... THE
BOSSSES,
THEY...

THE RANGER
FORCE SAID
THE SAME
THING.

THE IDEA THAT
A MONSTER
WAS HIDING ON
THE SURFACE
FOR THIRTEEN
YEARS IS...

THE FLOATING
FORTRESS IS
NOTHING BUT
A HUSK OF ITS
FORMER SELF,
THAT'S FOR
CERTAIN.



IS IT REALLY
POSSIBLE THAT
A BOSS IS
STILL ALIVE...?

I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND...



SLAM

DO YOU KNOW
SOMETHING...?

XX.



HUP!

FORGET ABOUT
REPAIRS, THIS
CALLS FOR A
REPLACEMENT.



JUST
WHAT'RE
YOU DOING
IN YOUR
ROOM?

WHOA!

THIS
IS AWFUL,
SAKURA-
MA-KUN.





GAAAH!

SLAM



HE
FOUND
ME!

OH
NO.



HE'S
GONNA
KILL
ME.

THAT WAS A
SURPRISE.

WHAT'S A
FIGHTER DOING
IN SAKURAMA-
KUN'S ROOM?



DAMMIT
...!

A COMMON
SOLDIER LIKE
THIS...?!

JUST
REMAIN
CALM.



DON'T
FIGHT
BACK.



IT'LL
BE BAD IF
YOU MAKE
TOO MUCH
NOISE.

PLEASE JUST
STAY QUIET.
I'LL LET YOU
ESCAPE.

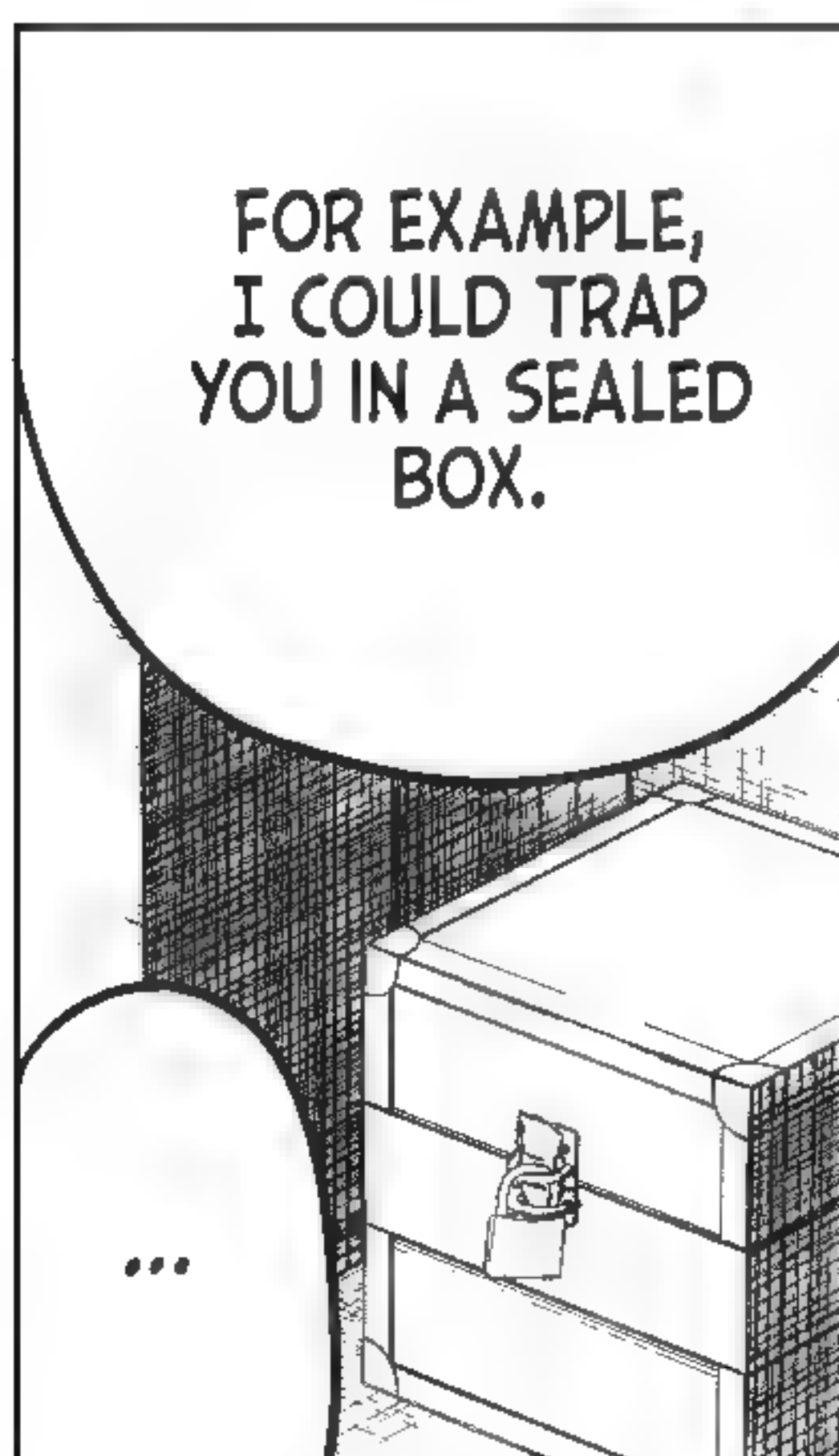


OH, I GET IT.
YOU CAN'T
TRULY KILL
ME WITHOUT
A DIVINE
ARTIFACT.

YOU'RE JUST
TRYING TO
BUY YOUR-
SELF TIME.

WHAT'RE YOU
SAYING...?

I-IS THIS
A TRAP?
YOU'RE NOT
FOOLING
ME.



FOR EXAMPLE,
I COULD TRAP
YOU IN A SEALED
BOX.

...



THERE'S A
WAY FOR ME TO
DISABLE YOU
EVEN WITHOUT A
DIVINE ARTIFACT,
THOUGH, RIGHT?

HAHA!
IS THAT
HOW THIS
LOOKS TO
YOU?



HUH?

THAT'S WHY I
TURNED AWAY
FROM THE WAR ON
THE SURFACE AND
CAME HERE TO
DO MAINTENANCE
UNDERGROUND.

I KNOW I
JOINED THE
RANGER FORCE,
BUT I GUESS
IT TURNS OUT
I DON'T LIKE
FIGHTING.

BUT...

I DON'T
WANT TO
DO THAT
ANYMORE.

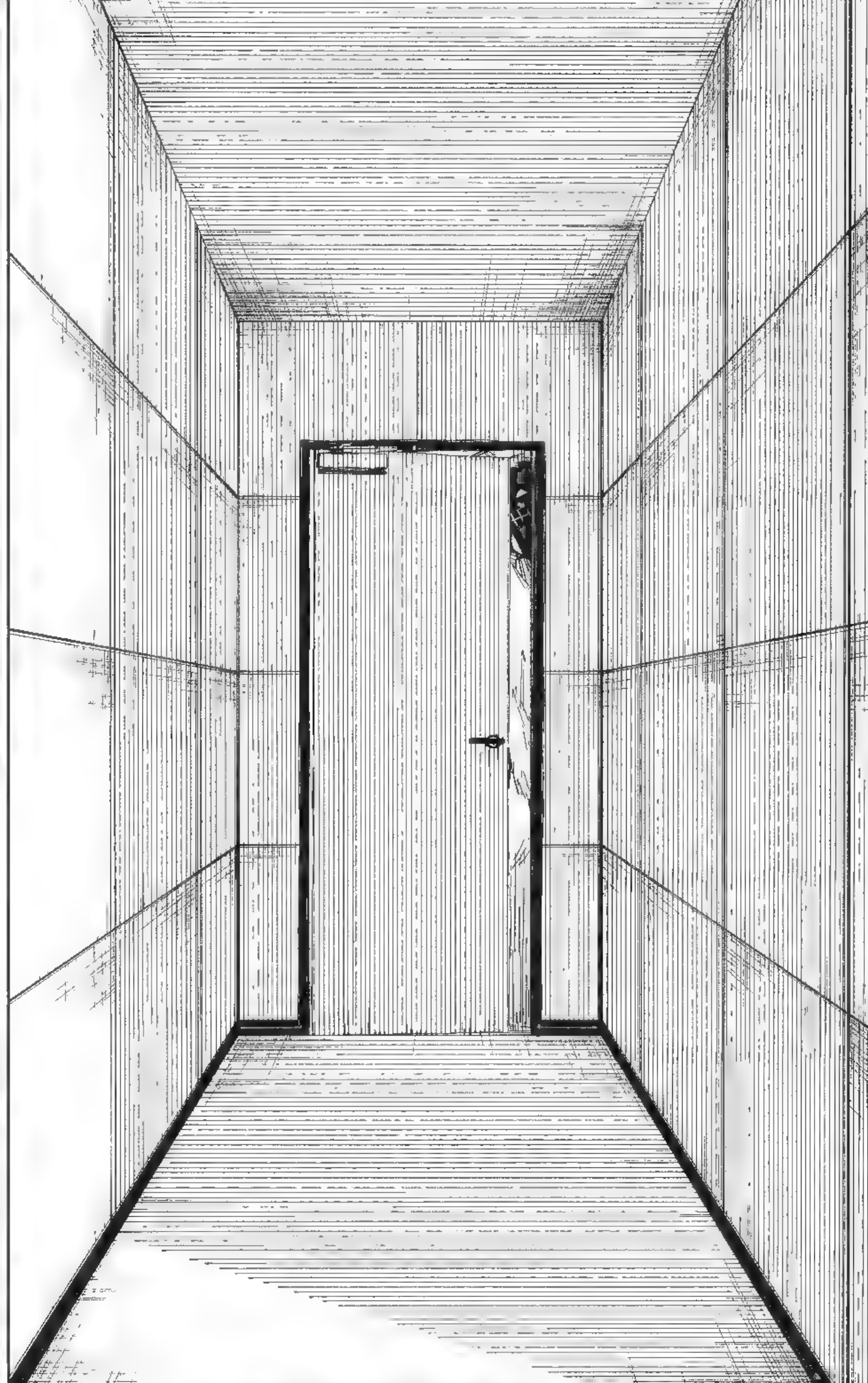
...BUT
I DON'T
WANT
TO KILL
YOU.

I WON'T
LET YOU
KILL ME...

THIS IS
JUST SELF-
INDULGENCE.

LET'S FIND
A WAY TO
SETTLE THIS
WITHOUT
FIGHTING.

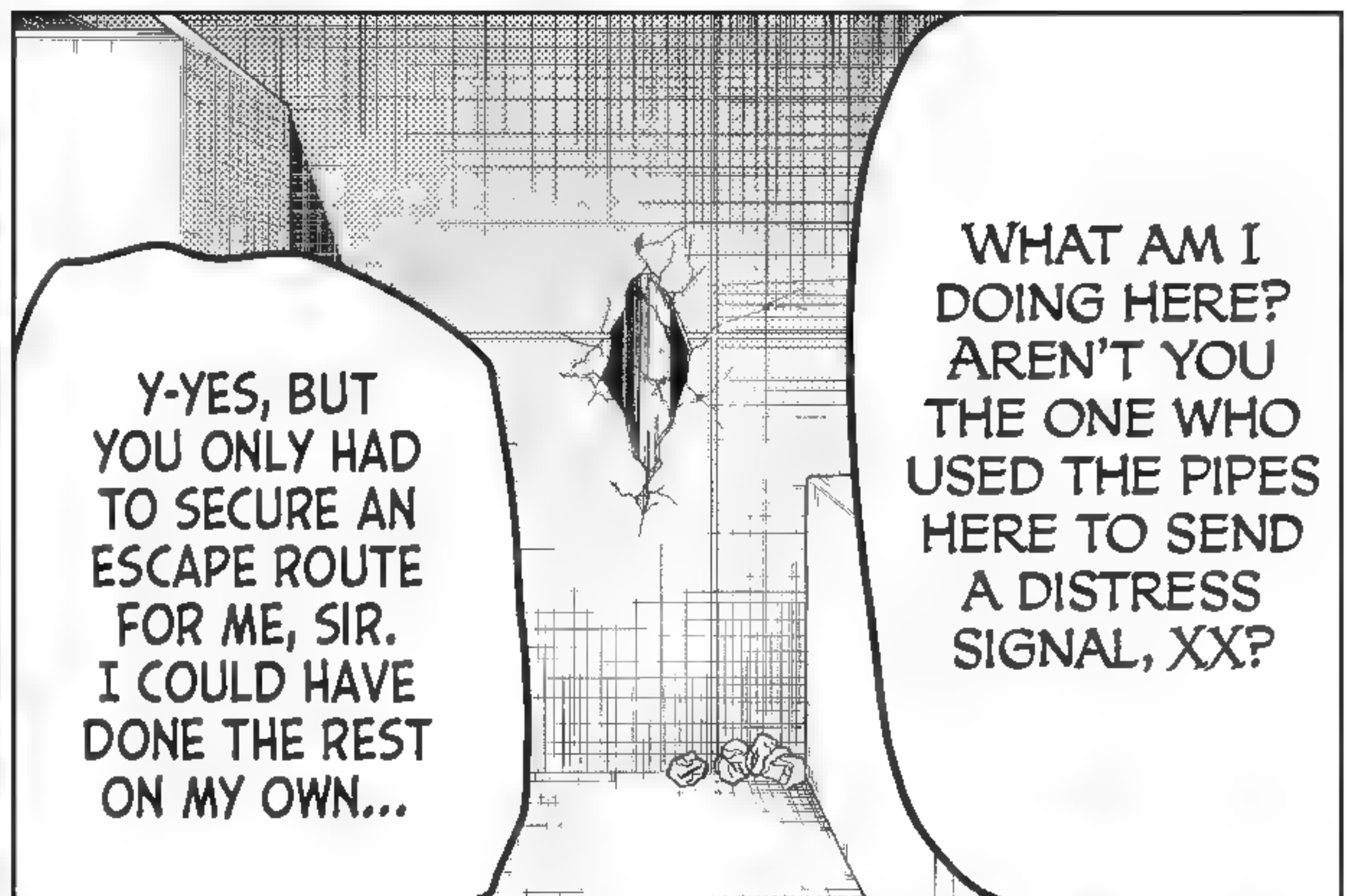






THERE'S NO
GREATER HONOR
THAN TO HAVE
ONE OF THE
BOSSES COME
PERSONALLY...

NO,
SIR...



Y-YES, BUT
YOU ONLY HAD
TO SECURE AN
ESCAPE ROUTE
FOR ME, SIR.
I COULD HAVE
DONE THE REST
ON MY OWN...

WHAT AM I
DOING HERE?
AREN'T YOU
THE ONE WHO
USED THE PIPES
HERE TO SEND
A DISTRESS
SIGNAL, XX?



HM?
DID I
UPSET
YOU?



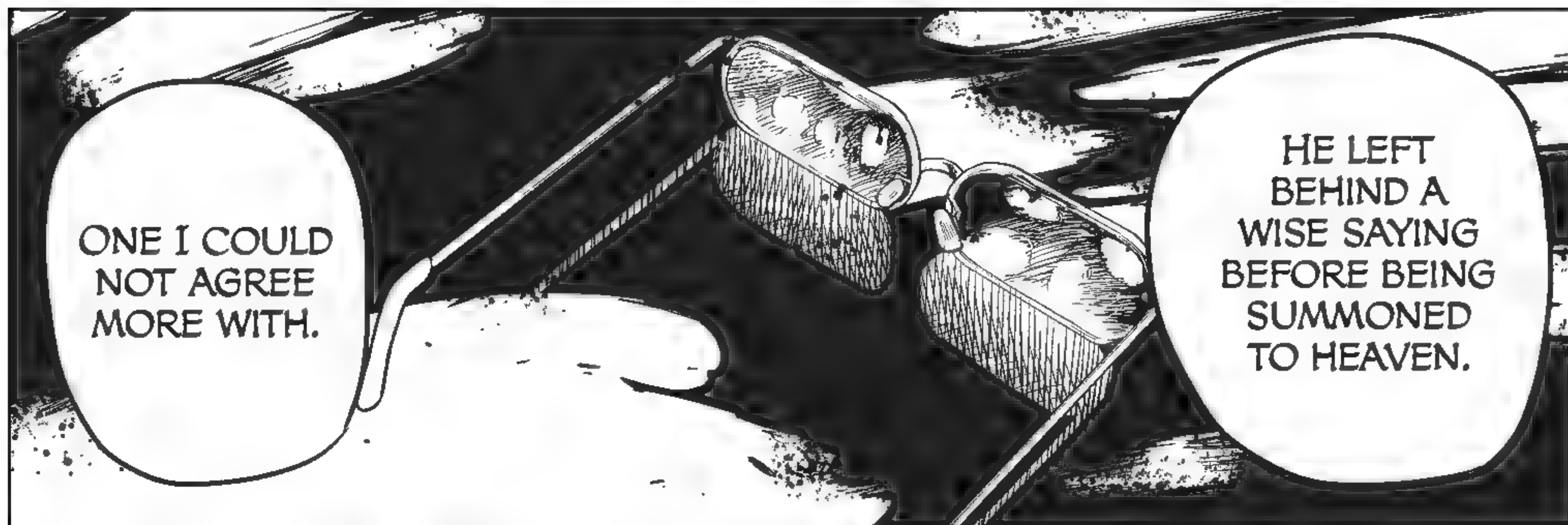
MY
PRECIOUS
XX.

TRAPPED
IN THIS
CRAMPED
LITTLE
PLACE.

THEY MUST
HAVE DONE
TERRIBLE
THINGS TO
YOU.

YOU'RE
TREMBLING.

YOU
POOR
THING...



ONE I COULD
NOT AGREE
MORE WITH.

HE LEFT
BEHIND A
WISE SAYING
BEFORE BEING
SUMMONED
TO HEAVEN.



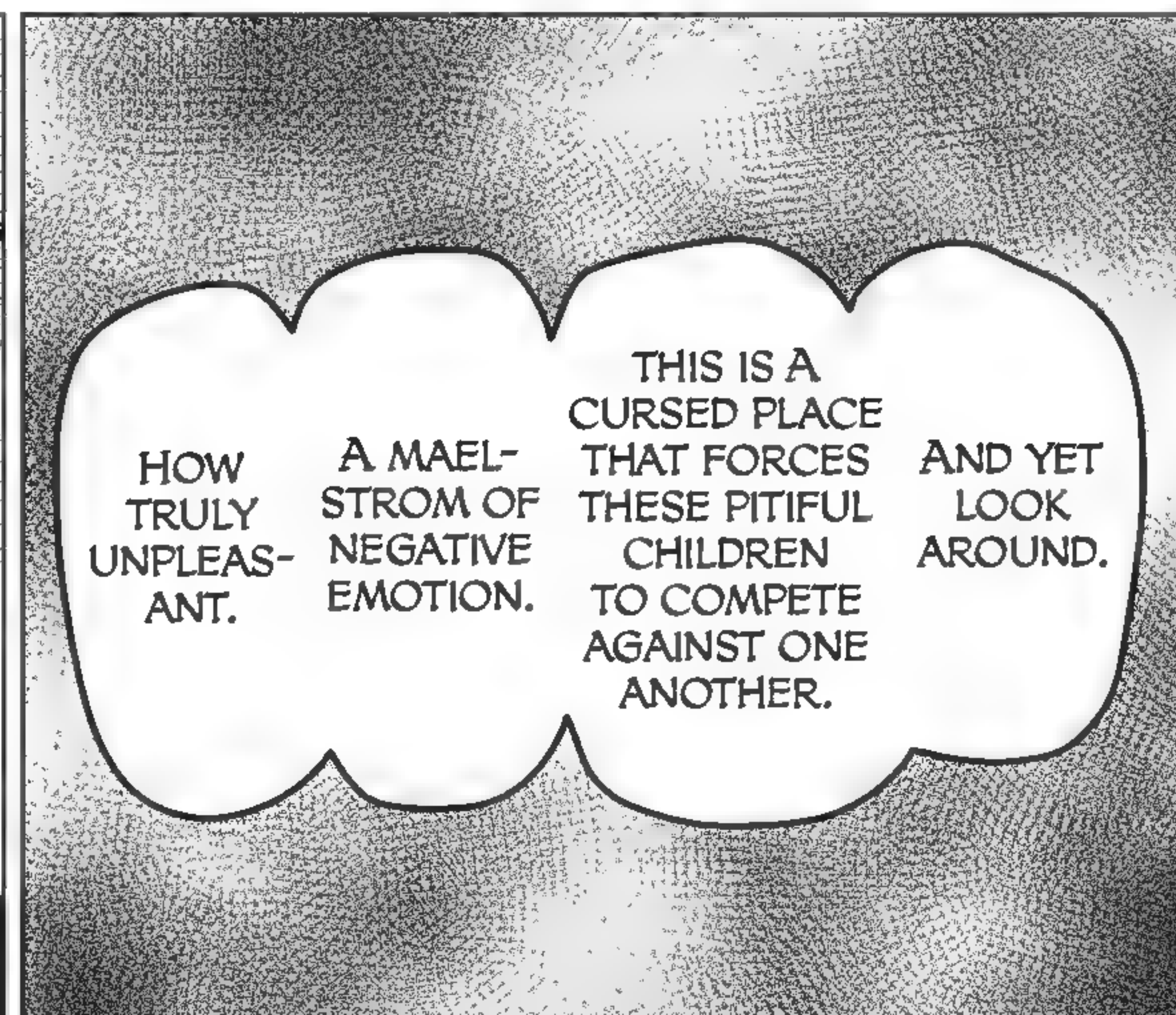
I WISH FOR
A PEACEFUL
WORLD. ONE
WITH NO
NEED FOR
CONFLICT.

FIGHTING
IS SUCH
A TRAGIC
THING.

THIS
WORLD
WOULD BE
BETTER
WITHOUT
IT.



EVEN
YOU'LL BE
IN DANGER.



HOW
TRULY
UNPLEAS-
ANT.

A MAEL-
STROM OF
NEGATIVE
EMOTION.

THIS IS A
CURSED PLACE
THAT FORCES
THESE PITIFUL
CHILDREN
TO COMPETE
AGAINST ONE
ANOTHER.

AND YET
LOOK
AROUND.



RETURN
TO YOUR
TRUE FORM
AND RUN.
QUICKLY.

FIGHTER
D...



SAVE
THEM FROM
THIS ENDLESS
SPIRAL OF
CONFLICT.

THESE
PITIFUL
SURFACE-
DWELLERS.



To Be Continued in Volume 4

GO! GO!
LOSER RANGER!



AND...

**WHAT
ABOUT...**

**...THE BOSS
MONSTER,
PELTOLA?!**

...HAVE SPLIT INTO TWO?!

**WHAT ON
EARTH
COULD
HAVE
HAPPENED
?!**

**CANDIDATES WHO
SHOULD BE WORKING TOGETHER...**

Cover Sketches Art Gallery









THE HIGH SCHOOL HAREM COMEDY WITH FIVE TIMES THE CUTE GIRLS!

"An entertaining romantic-comedy with a snarky edge to it." —Taykobon



Futaro Uesugi is a second-year in high school, scraping to get by and pay off his family's debt. The only thing he can do is study, so when Futaro receives a part-time job offer to tutor the five daughters of a wealthy businessman, he can't pass it up. Little does he know, these five beautiful sisters are quintuplets, but the only thing they have in common...is that they're all terrible at studying!

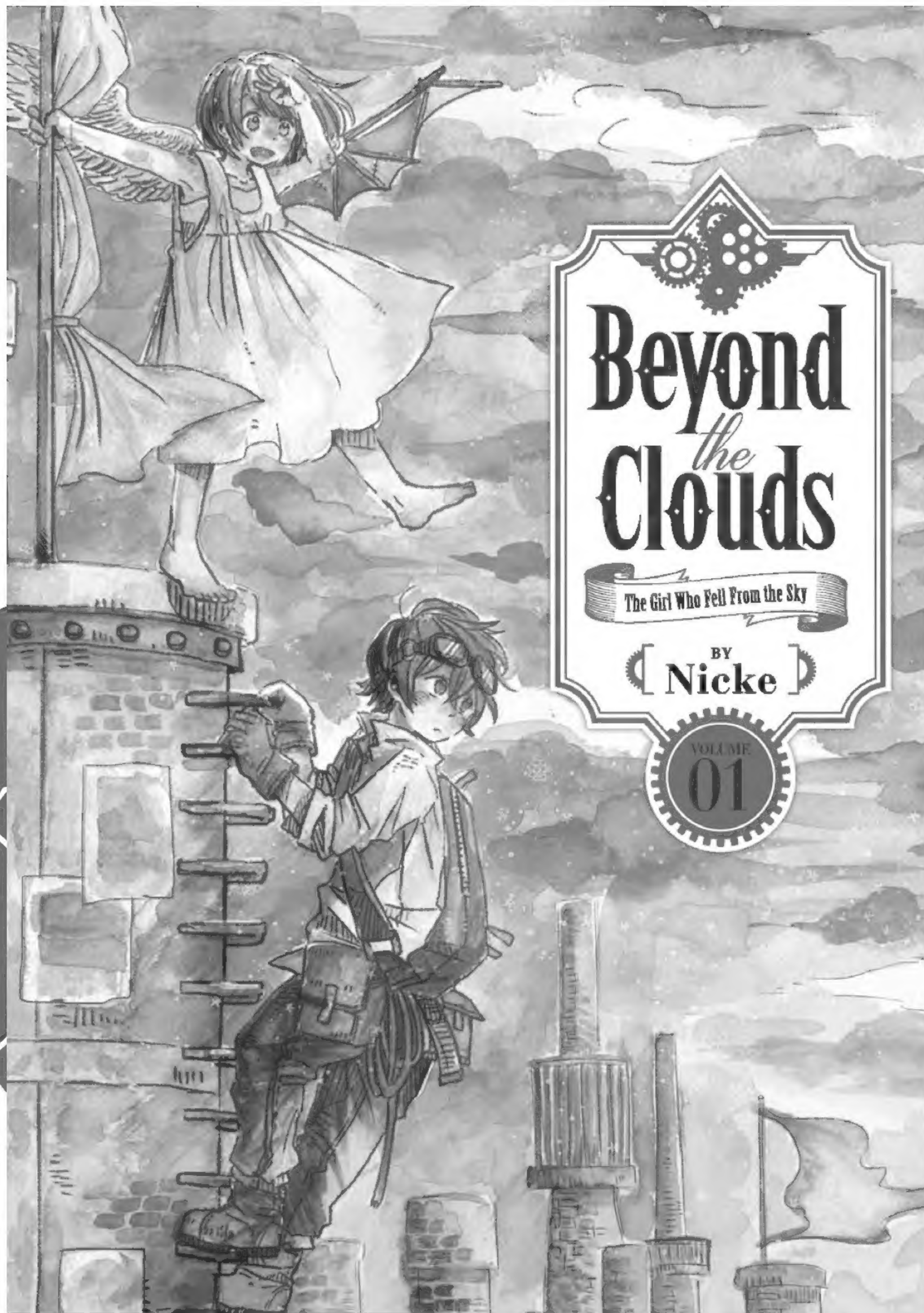
THE QUINTESSENTIAL QUINTUPLETS

negi haruba

ANIME
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KODANSHA
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Young characters and steampunk setting,
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SHIRAHAMA

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A magical manga
adventure for
fans of Disney
and Studio
Ghibli!

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Japan by storm is finally here,
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Saiyuki

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KAZUYA MINEKURA

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**FEATURES NEW TRANSLATION, COLOR PAGES,
AND BEAUTIFUL WRAPAROUND COVER ART!**

Go! Go! Loser Ranger! 3

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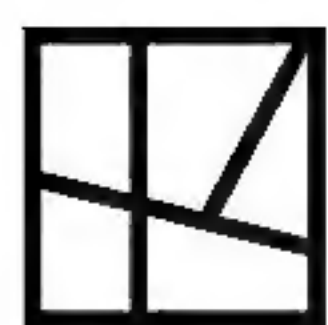
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